

TO: Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors

FROM: **Brett Friedman, Acting Medicaid Director**
Office of Health Insurance Programs

SUBJECT: **Care at Home I/II Waiver Transition to the Children's Waiver**

EFFECTIVE DATE: **Immediately**

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The purpose of this General Information System (GIS) message is to provide Care at Home (CAH) I/II coordinators in Local Districts of Social Services (LDSS) with information regarding the termination of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) 1915(c) CAH I/II Waiver program and transition of children enrolled in the 1915(c) CAH I/II Waiver to the 1915(c) Children's Waiver.

Introduction

As the LDSS were notified of with the issuance of 19 OHIP/ADM-02 "Consolidated Children's Waiver and Medicaid Case Processing Requirements", the 1915(c) CAH I/II Waiver was amended and approved into the consolidated 1915(c) Children's Waiver, effective April 1, 2019.

Implications

All children previously enrolled in 1915(c) CAH I/II waiver services, including those children turning 18 years old during the transition period, will continue to receive services via the 1915(c) Children's Waiver. As such, if the child and family choose to continue receiving 1915(c) waiver services, additional waiver services are now available to waiver participants and new procedural protocols are in place.

The amended application provides that eligibility for the Children's Waiver ends on the day of the waiver participant's twenty-first (21st) birthday. As physically disabled participants reach their seventeenth (17th) birthday, the Health Homes/Independent Entity (HH/IE) may begin to assist the enrollees in planning for transition to other services and/or programs.

Waiver enrollees with physical disabilities who reach their eighteenth (18th) birthday may transition to Medicaid managed care or to another Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver that serves adults, such as the Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) waiver or the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) waiver, as available and/or appropriate.

Under the Children's Waiver, these children may continue receiving waiver services until their 21st birthday, if needed. If the child continues to meet the targeting, risk and Level of Care (LOC) determination under the 1915(c) Children's Waiver and requests a service on the 1915(c)

Children's Waiver that is not available under one of the adult waivers, such as the Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) waiver or the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) waiver, the child will be permitted to remain on the Children's Waiver until their 21st birthday. A transition plan will be developed to transition the young adult to the adult waivers.

Summary

Contingent on participant choice and ongoing risk and LOC determination, all children previously receiving CAH I/II 1915(c) waiver services will continue to receive services via the Children's 1915(c) Waiver until he/she chooses another 1915(c) waiver or managed care benefit.