



Department of Public Health and Human Services

Director's Office ♦ PO Box 4210 ♦ Helena, MT 59620 ♦ (406) 444-5622 ♦ Fax: (406) 444-1970 ♦ www.dphhs.mt.gov

Steve Bullock, Governor

Richard H. Opper, Director

ADDRESS BLOCK

February 18, 2015

Dear :

We are pleased to invite comment from all Tribal Chairs, Tribal Presidents, Urban Indian Center Directors and Indian Health Service regarding the renewal application for the Behavioral Health Severe Disabling Mental Illness (SDMI) Home and Community Based Services Waiver. The Department of Public Health and Human Services will submit the waiver renewal request for approval to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on or before March 30, 2015, for an effective date of July 1, 2015.

The SDMI Waiver is designed to provide an individual with SDMI a choice of receiving long term care services in a community setting as an alternative to receiving long term care services in a nursing home setting. The member must meet nursing home level of care and reside in an area of the state where the SDMI Waiver is available. The SDMI Waiver is currently available to serve a total of 198 persons in the following regions of Montana:

- Yellowstone (Yellowstone, Big Horn, Carbon, Stillwater and Sweet Grass counties);
- Butte-Silver Bow (Butte-Silver Bow, Beaverhead, Deer Lodge, Granite, Powell and Jefferson counties);
- Cascade (Cascade, Blaine, Choteau, Glacier, Hill, Liberty, Pondera, Phillips, Teton and Toole counties);
- Missoula (Missoula county); and
- Lewis and Clark (Lewis and Clark, and Jefferson counties).

The projected annual cost of services is approximately \$19,870 per member. The waiver changes will be cost neutral. The currently approved SDMI Waiver may be reviewed at: <http://dphhs.mt.gov/amdd/Mentalhealthservices>. This renewal will potentially have a positive impact for the American Indian individuals served on this waiver. The requested changes for the renewal are:

- Adding the availability of a Self Determination option.
- Adding Ravalli County to Missoula Service area.
- Removing the underutilized service of Day Health.
- Additional services that may be removed or reduced in number of units due to minimal utilization are Respite, per diem; and Personal Assistance, per diem. Moving the Wellness and Recovery Action Plan (WRAP), and the Illness and Management Recovery (IMR), to the Health and Wellness service.
- Adding the Environmental Modification services.
- Moving the members funded under the Money Follows the Person grant to the SDMI Waiver on day 366 of the program.

- The addition of the waiver-specific HCBS Transition Plan to bring the SDMI waiver into compliance with federal regulations issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on March 17, 2014, defining permissible Home and Community Based settings.

The Montana Joint Subcommittee on Health and Human Services has proposed to include 50 additional slots in the SMDI Waiver in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2016, and an additional 50 slots in SFY 2017. The final outcome is dependent on passage of House Bill 2, which will occur at the end of April 2015.

A public meeting will be held to discuss the waiver renewal and transition plan on February 26, 2015, from 9:00 am to 10:30 am, at the Sanders Auditorium, 111 N. Sanders Ave., Helena, Montana. Individuals who need assistance to participate during this meeting should call 406-444-2878. The public meeting can also be accessed by webinar. The link is <https://hhsmt.webex.com/hhsmt>, and the meeting password is "AMDD".

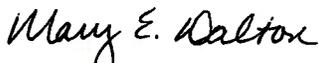
The call in number and access code are:
Toll free # is 1-877-668-4490
Access code: 576 919 317

The SDMI Waiver renewal application will be available for review February 21, 2015, at <http://dphhs.mt.gov/amdd/Mentalhealthservices>. The state, upon request, will make available hard copies of the waiver renewal and transition plan.

We want you to have the opportunity to review the proposed changes, understand the concepts, and offer your comments. We invite your comments and questions **from February 21 through March 24, 2015**, addressed to: Marcia Armstrong, Mental Health Medicaid Program Manager at marmstrong@mt.gov, (406) 444-2878, or Addictive and Mental Disorders Division (AMDD), PO Box 202905, Helena MT 59620-2905; or to Mary Eve Kulawik, Medicaid State Plan Amendment and Waiver Coordinator, at (406) 444-2584 or mkulawik@mt.gov, or Director's Office, PO Box 4210, Helena, MT 59604.

Please let us know if you would like to arrange a date and time for us to further discuss this waiver. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Mary E. Dalton
State Medicaid Director

cc: Jason Smith, Director, Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
Lesia Evers, Tribal Relations Manager, DPHHS