



Department of Public Health and Human Services

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Steve Bullock, Governor

**Richard H. Opper,
Director**

Date: February 4, 2016

To: Behavioral Health Severe Disabling Mental Illness (SDMI) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Members, Providers, and Stakeholders

From: Mary E. Dalton, Medicaid State Director *Mary*

Subject: Montana Behavioral Health SDMI HCBS Waiver Amendment

This memo is to inform you that on or before March 31, 2016, the Department of Public Health and Human Services will submit a request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to amend the Behavioral Health SDMI HCBS Waiver, for an effective date of July 1, 2016.

The SDMI Waiver currently serves 248 persons in the following regions of Montana:

- 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);
- Flathead (Flathead, Lake, Sanders and Lincoln counties);
- Lewis and Clark (Lewis and Clark, and Jefferson counties);
- Missoula (Missoula and Ravalli counties); and
- Yellowstone (Yellowstone, Big Horn, Carbon, Stillwater and Sweet Grass counties).

The amendment will make the following changes to the SDMI Waiver:

- Add coverage in Gallatin, Broadwater, Park and Madison counties, per the request of Service Area Authorities, Local Advisory Councils, and providers in these counties who see a need for the services. The four counties represent the next largest metropolitan area that can support the waiver.
- Add the services Life Coach, Overnight Supports, and Companion, which were identified as assisting members who had previously utilized the bundled Supported Living service. Supported Living was eliminated at the waiver's last renewal, per CMS guidance that bundled services are not allowed.
- Increase the training requirements for Peer Support from 16 hours to a minimum of 30 hours.
- Reduce or eliminate the services Registered Nurse Supervision, and Dietician and Nutritional Counseling that were unutilized in State Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014.
- Eliminate Occupational Therapy as a waiver service. With the elimination of limits on therapies, this service will be provided through Medicaid state plan authority.

The estimated total annual fiscal impact of this amendment is \$632,725 for Waiver Year 1 (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017), and \$656,882 for Waiver Year 2 (July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018).

The SDMI Waiver amendment application is available for review at <http://dphhs.mt.gov/amdd/Mentalhealthservices.aspx>. Comments can be made directly through the website. The state, upon request, will make available hard copies of the waiver amendment.

Questions or comments can be submitted **through March 4, 2016**, 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.