MONTANA DPHHS
Healthy People. Healthy Communities.
Department of Public Health & Human Services

Department of Public Health and Human Services

Developmental Services Division ♦ Developmental Disabilities Program ♦ 111 N. Sanders Rm 305
♦ PO Box 4210 ♦ Helena, MT 59604-4210 ♦ phone: (406) 444-2995 ♦ fax: (406) 444-0230

Steve Bullock, Governor

Richard H. Opper, Director

Date: February 18, 2015

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

From: Mary Dalton, Medicaid State Director Mary

Subject: SDMI HCBS Waiver Renewal and Transition Plan

This memo is to inform you that on or before March 30, 2015, the Department of Public Health and Human Services will submit a request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to renew the Behavioral Health SDMI HCBS Waiver, 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 including the transition plan. Questions or comments can be submitted **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.