

**Senior and Long Term Care Division Update**  
**Montana Health Coalition Meeting Update**

**Montana Big Sky Waiver Renewal**

- Effective July 1, 2011 – June 30<sup>th</sup> 2016
- Major Changes
  - Subsumed Big Sky Bonanza Waiver
  - Added New Services to Meet Consumers' Needs
    - Community Transition Service
      - Expenses necessary to enable a person to establish a basic household.
    - Senior Companion Service
      - Provided by Senior Companion Programs which are part of the Senior Corp.
  - Home and Community Character Language for Assisted Living Facilities
  - More Extensive Quality Assurances with Specific Performance Measures
  - 1915(b)/(c) Combination
    - 1915© is the traditional waiver
    - 1915(b) is the new addition, a managed care type arrangement which allows the State to limit the number of providers of services and thus limit choice.
    - Pursued the 1915(b) waiver for one service only, Case Management Services
    - The two waivers work together to provide coordinated services.

**Montana Big Sky Waiver Case Management RFP Results**

- New Contracts Awarded January 1, 2012
- Contract Agencies
  - Went from 20 to 7 agencies.
  - A number of agencies were not awarded the contracts they held previously.
  - Benefis Spectrum was awarded contracts for a majority of areas.

**On the Forefront**

- Awaiting final CMS regulations defining home and community character for HCBS settings, particularly Assisted Living Facilities.
- Money Follows the Person Grant and other “rebalancing” efforts.

## 100's Project

**2011 Montana Legislature provided \$2,500,000 in funding for waiver expansion for transitioning individuals from the nursing facility setting into the community or to be used to divert individuals who were in the community who were at risk of nursing facility placement.**

- Transitions/Diversions approved 96
  - Transitions 51 Total
  - Diversions 45 Total
- Turnover of slots/Replacements 16
- Current active placements 80
- Transitions in Process 5
- Age Range 16 to 100
  - Transition average age 65
  - Diversion average age 77
- Cost Plan Average/Year \$30,336

## Pending Rule Changes

**Hospice rule will be updated to incorporate current regulation cites and update fee schedule references.**