



June 20, 2025



Re: Montana Section 1115 Health and Economic Livelihood Partnership (HELP) Waiver Application



The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) is pleased to provide notice of intent to submit an 1115 Medicaid Demonstration Waiver application to implement various program requirements outlined in state law, including policies related to community engagement and beneficiary cost sharing.

Specifically, in 2019 and 2025, the Montana Legislature enacted legislation that amended state law and directed DPHHS to implement community engagement requirements as provided for in Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 53-6-1308 and MCA 53-6-1309 and cost sharing requirements as documented in MCA 53-6-1307. The Montana HELP Demonstration Program waiver application will seek U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approval to implement community engagement and cost sharing requirements as outlined in state code. Further, should related federal policy changes occur as proposed in current draft reconciliation bills, DPHHS will seek to align with the federal law and comply with those changes through the appropriate authority pathway

When the 1115 waiver draft is complete and the full 30-day public comment period begins, we will provide you with all additional program documentation, including the draft waiver application for your review and feedback. During the public comment period we will accept comments for at least 30 days and hold two public hearings as required by CMS. We will provide you with hearing information as it becomes available.

We invite comment from all Tribal Governments, Urban Indian Health Centers, and the Indian Health Service regarding the Department's 1115 HELP Waiver application. Additionally, we commit to scheduling a formal tribal consultation at your request and as necessary.

We look forward to engaging with you in this important process.

Sincerely,

/s/ Charles T. Brereton, Director

/s/ Rebecca de Camara, Medicaid and Health Services Executive Director

cc: Misty Kuhl, Director, Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
Stephanie Iron Shooter, American Indian Health Director, DPHHS