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**Montana Medicaid Home and Community Based 1915(c) Severe Disabling and Mental Illness (SDMI) Amendment
effective October 1, 2023**

On or before July 1, 2023, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) is submitting a Montana Medicaid Home and Community Based 1915(c) Severe Disabling and Mental Illness (SDMI) amendment for Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services approval. The effective date of the amendment is October 1, 2023.

The SDMI Waiver offered several flexibilities during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) through the Appendix K authority. This amendment to the base waiver proposes to make selected Appendix K provisions permanent. The changes are as follows:

- Adding a self-direct service option to Behavioral Intervention Assistant and Life Coach.
- Adding Financial Management Services and Individual Directed Goods and Services (IDGS) to increase self-directed provider options.
- Adding conflict-free case management criteria to the base waiver to ensure there is no conflict between AWARE, Inc., case management and AWARE, Inc., SDMI waiver services. AWARE, Inc., is the SDMI Waiver's contractor who provides case management services.

In addition to making these PHE flexibilities permanent, DPHHS is updating case management team requirements to align with the requirements in the approved AWARE, Inc., contract.

The total estimated annual fiscal impact of the SMDI Waiver amendment is \$84,825.

The draft SDMI Waiver amendment is available for review at [Severe Disabling Mental Illness SDMI Home and Community Based HCBS Waiver Program \(mt.gov\)](#). The state, upon request, will make hard copies available. Questions and comments can be submitted **from May 1 through May 30, 2023**, addressed 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 59604-4210.