

The State of Vermont, Agency of Human Services (AHS), plans to submit an extension request for the period from 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2018, to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for its Section 1115(a) Demonstration Waiver: Global Commitment (GC) to Health. The GC Demonstration was designed to test the hypothesis that greater program flexibility in the use of Medicaid resources and the lessening of federal restrictions on Medicaid services would permit the State to better meet the needs of Vermont's uninsured, underinsured and Medicaid beneficiaries for the same or lower cost. Specifically, the GC Demonstration aims to: 1) promote access to affordable health coverage, 2) develop public health approaches for meeting the needs of individuals and families, 3) develop innovative, outcome- and quality-focused payment approaches, 4) enhance coordination of care across health care providers and service delivery systems, and 5) control program cost growth.

Summary of Extension Proposal for effective date of January 1, 2014

- Continuation of the current public Medicaid managed care model and all current payment and service system flexibilities;
- Consolidation of the Choices for Care and GC waivers and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) (authorized under Title XXI of the Social Security Act) into one 1115 Demonstration Waiver;
- Inclusion of any necessary authorities for the Dual Eligible integrated Medicare and Medicaid model, once approved;
- Revisions to eligibility groups due to the Affordable Care Act;
- Use of Modified Adjusted Gross Income methodologies for income determination;
- Premium subsidies for individuals with incomes up to and including 300% of FPL who purchase insurance through the Health Benefit Exchange;
- Continue coverage of existing home and community-based programs;
- Continue coverage of specialized mental health services through continuation and expansion of the Community Rehabilitation and Treatment Program benefit;
- Expand service options for persons in the 'moderate needs group';
- Add an enhanced hospice benefit for persons with terminal illness; and
- Continue authorities and preserve choice for Long Term Support and Service beneficiaries.

The complete description of changes and draft extension request, including financial data (preliminary budget neutrality data from 2014 through 2018 and potential Medicaid impacts as they align with the Governor's single payer financial plan), can be found at:

<http://dvha.vermont.gov/administration/2013-global-commitment>

Public Hearings will be held on 2/19/13 from 3:30pm-5:30pm at Vermont Interactive Television (VIT) sites in Bennington, Brattleboro, Johnson, Lyndonville, Middlebury, Newport, Randolph Center, Rutland, Springfield, St. Albans, White River Junction, Montpelier, originating in Williston, and on 3/11/13 from 11:00am-1:00pm at the VSAC Building, 1st floor Community Conference Room, 10 East Allen Street, Winooski (call in number: 213-289-0155, Conference room #4238242). Written comments on the draft are due 3/22/13 by 4:30pm. Written comments should be sent via email to ashley.berliner@state.vt.us or mailed to Ashley Berliner, DVHA, 289 Hurricane Lane, Williston, VT 05495. Comments received will be posted to the DVHA website for viewing by 4:30pm on 3/27/13. Copies of the draft extension request are available at:

<http://dvha.vermont.gov/administration/2013-global-commitment>, or can be requested from local Department for Children and Families (DCF) offices or from DVHA at (802) 879-5603.

If you need special accommodations to participate in the public hearing, please notify Ashley Berliner at (802) 879-5603.