

March 4, 2019

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUBJECT: Community Engagement Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver Application

Public notice is hereby given that South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) intends to apply for a new section 1115 demonstration waiver to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to promote South Carolina Healthy Connections Medicaid beneficiaries' health and well-being through incentivizing community engagement. The public can review the full public notice and official waiver application online at <https://msp.scdhhs.gov/cew> and provide comments until April 3, 2019.

This third public notice incorporates initial feedback received in the first two rounds of the public comment period. This notice also serves to open the 30-day public comment period, which closes April 3, 2019, at 5 p.m. In addition, all public comments will be communicated to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of the final waiver application.

South Carolina's 1115 demonstration waiver seeks to implement community engagement standards to improve the health of its citizens through five key changes to the state's Medicaid program:

- First, SCDHHS seeks to identify individuals eligible for community engagement activities and assist them with accessing necessary employment and community engagement support programs.
- Second, SCDHHS seeks a state-specific solution to mitigate financial disincentives for employment created by the Affordable Care Act's all-or-nothing Medicaid expansion.
- Third, SCDHHS will modernize eligibility thresholds for children participating in the Title XIX Medicaid and Title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), including creating a pathway to treatment and employment for the justice-involved population.
- Fourth, SCDHHS seeks to combat the ongoing opioid crisis by providing medically necessary addiction treatment services to the state's lowest-income individuals.
- Fifth and finally, SCDHHS seeks to improve customer service and reduce artificial administrative barriers to benefit coordination among social service agencies by updating legacy information systems and improving data sharing between Medicaid and other programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Unemployment Insurance (UI) and other programs.

Communication

A copy of the full public notice and demonstration application is available at the following locations:

1. Website: www.scdhhs.gov (under the “Public Notice,” “Waiver” and “Community Engagement Waiver” sections)
2. Hardcopies:
 - a. SCDHHS Main Office, 1801 Main Street, Columbia, SC
 - b. All Healthy Connections County Offices
3. Email: A copy may also be requested by at CEWaiver@scdhhs.gov.

Information on the proposed community engagement demonstration waiver will be discussed at six additional public hearings:

1. Friday, March 15, 3-4 p.m.
Charleston Public Library
6325 Dorchester Rd.
North Charleston, SC 29418
2. Saturday, March 16, 3-4 p.m.
Greenville County Public Library, Hughes Main Library
25 Heritage Green Place
Greenville, SC 29601
3. Monday, March 18, 1-2 p.m.
Richland Library Main
1431 Assembly Street
Columbia, SC 29201
4. Monday, March 25, 6-7 p.m.
Greenville County Public Library, Hughes Main Library
25 Heritage Green Place
Greenville, SC 29601
5. Tuesday, March 26, 5-6 p.m.
Richland Library Main
1431 Assembly Street
Columbia, SC 29201
6. Friday, March 29, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Charleston Public Library, Main Branch
68 Calhoun Street
Charleston, SC 29401

Public Notice/Community Engagement Waiver

A webinar will also be scheduled during the public comment period. Please visit <https://msp.scdhhs.gov/cew> for details and information.

Public Comments and Responses

SCDHHS wants to hear from the public about the revised proposed section 1115 demonstration waiver to improve the health of Medicaid beneficiaries through community engagement. Public comments must be received by 5 p.m. April 3, 2019:

1. Website: <https://msp.scdhhs.gov/cew>
2. Email: CEWaiver@scdhhs.gov
3. Mail: South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Attn: Community Engagement Waiver
P.O. Box 8206, Columbia, SC 29202