

December 1, 2014

**Updated Amendment Plans for Medicaid Home and Community-Based Waivers**

In August and September of 2014, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) notified stakeholders of its intent to modify three home and community based waiver programs operated through the Community Long Term Care (CLTC) Program. At the time, updates were planned for three waivers that combined changes related to Healthy Connections Prime and other programmatic changes:

1. SC.0186 HIV/AIDS Waiver
2. SC.0405 Community Choices Waiver
3. SC.40181 Mechanical Ventilator Dependent Waiver

After conferring with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), it was decided that some aspects of that notice no longer apply. There have been changes in the planned effective date for aspects of Healthy Connections Prime, and the other waiver amendments no longer need to be submitted at the same time. As a result, SCDHHS will remove the August notice from its website and will update the public as described below.

SCDHHS has begun separate notification processes for proposed programmatic updates to the Community Choices waiver and the Mechanical Ventilator Dependent waiver. Those updates will be issued on the SCDHHS website, as well as through other means of notification according to policy. As described more thoroughly in those notices, the Community Choices waiver is proposed to be amended to increase the number of participants served and to add adult day health care - nursing as a new waiver service. The proposed Mechanical Ventilator Dependent amendment would add home delivered meals and case management as waiver services. Under the proposed amendment, case management would no longer be an administrative activity.

The proposed changes related to the next phase of the Healthy Connections Prime program will affect all three waivers listed above. Those updates are anticipated to be effective in

2016, with public notice late in the summer of 2015. Public notices will be issued on the SCDHHS website, as well as through other means according to policy.