



Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services

October 16, 2012

Judy Ann Bigby, M.D.
Secretary
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid
One Asburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Dr. Bigby:

Your Title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) state plan amendment (SPA) number 9, submitted on June 26, 2012, with subsequent clarifying information submitted on July 26, September 28 and October 5, has been approved with effective dates of October 1, 2011, and January 1, 2014.

This SPA provides funding through the Health Services Initiative (HSI) option at section 2105(1)(D)(ii) of the Social Security Act to use up to 10 percent of the available administrative funding to pay for nine programs related to improving the health of children. The state shall ensure that remaining Title XXI funding, within the state's 10-percent limit, is sufficient to continue the proper administration of the CHIP program, including costs needed to convert to Modified Adjusted Gross Income and interact with the Exchange in 2104. If such funds become less than sufficient, the state agrees to redirect Title XXI funds from the support of this HSI to the administration of the CHIP program. The state shall report annually to CMS the expenditures of each program funded by the HSI on a federal fiscal year basis. CMS will work with the state to develop a simple and effective reporting process.

The state is approved to implement the HSI option for children under age 19 that receive services through the following programs effective October 1, 2011:

Child At-Risk Hotline for Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect. Massachusetts (MA) offers a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week hotline in order to identify and provide services to children who may be victims of child abuse and/or neglect. Currently, MA's child abuse hotline is staffed by MA's Department of Children and Families (DCF) employees between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays and managed by contracted staff employed by The Judge Baker Children's Center after 5 p.m. and on weekends. Thus, MA is requesting to use CHIP funds to pay for the expenditures associated with the Judge Baker Children's Center contract.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. MA’s Department of Public Health currently funds fifteen community-based programs that provide teen pregnancy prevention strategies to teens that are at high risk of becoming pregnant.

Youth Violence Prevention Program. MA’s Department of Public Health currently funds organizations such as the YMCA and the Boston Public Health Commission to provide out-of-school time activities aimed at preventing and reducing at-risk behavior among youth.

Young Parent Support Program (YPS). According to MA state officials, “the Young Parents Support Program provides services to young, high-risk parents. The services include home visiting, outreach, case management, mentoring, and parenting groups. The goal of the YPSP is to strengthen the parenting skills of the young parent.”

Safe and Successful Youth Program (SSY) is a new program in Massachusetts. The purpose of the SSYP is to provide intervention strategies and long-term community building activities for high risk young men between the ages of 14 and 24-years old. The activities include, but are not limited to, trauma informed case management; intensive supervision; employment, education, health care and conflict-management training; and, providing opportunities for youth leadership development.

Massachusetts will also use the HSI, beginning in January 2014, to fund four additional programs currently funded through the state’s 1115 Demonstration.

Children’s Medical Security Plan (CMSP). The CMSP is currently managed by MA’s Executive Office of Health and Human Services. The purpose of the CMSP is to provide a limited set of preventive and primary care services to uninsured children in MA who are under the age of 19 with family incomes up to 400 percent of the FPL. These services include providing medical, behavioral health, dental, pharmaceutical services in addition to covering two inpatient services: (1) insertion and removal of ear tubes; and, (2) inguinal hernia repair.

Failure to Thrive (FTT). The FTT program is currently administered by MA’s Department of Public Health. According to MA officials, the FTT program uses a multi-disciplinary team to provide evaluation and treatment for infants or children who are exhibiting childhood malnutrition and growth failure due to a poor or inadequate diet. The FTT team also includes outreach efforts to help pediatricians with early detection and intervention for nutrition-related illnesses.

Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program. The MA Department of Public Health administers the SANE Program. The SANE program offers on call, 24-hour direct care for adolescents and children who disclose sexual assault and who go to SANE designated Emergency Departments or through six statewide Children’s Advocacy Centers in MA. SANE nurses provide services to assist with the psychological, physical and emotional healing process.

Pediatric Palliative Care Program (PPC). The MA Department of Public Health administers the PPC program. According to MA officials, the purpose of the PPC is to help children age 18

and younger with life-limiting illnesses and their families gain a sense of control in their lives. It also helps children and their caregivers manage the pain and other symptoms brought on by illness. Palliative care services include, but are not limited to, pain and symptom management; assessment and case management; spiritual care; social services; and, counseling for patient and other family members; respite care; emergency services; and, bereavement care for family members in the event of death.

Your Title XXI project officer is Ms. Carolyn Whitaker. She is available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other CHIP-related issues. Ms. Whitaker's contact information is as follows:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
Mail Stop S2-01-16
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850
Telephone: (410) 786-1068
Facsimile: (410) 786-5943
E-mail: Carolyn.whitaker@cms.hhs.gov

Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Ms. Whitaker and to Mr. Richard McGreal, Associate Regional Administrator, in our Boston Regional Office. Mr. McGreal's address is:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations
JFK Federal Building, Room 2275
Boston, MA 02203-0003

If you have additional questions, please contact Ms. Victoria Wachino, Director, Children and Adults Health Programs Group, Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services at (410) 786-5647. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

/s/

Cindy Mann
Director

cc: Richard McGreal, ARA, CMS Region I