November 29, 2018

Judith Cash
Acting Director
State Demonstrations Group
Centers for Medicaid and CHIP Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-01-16
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Dear Ms. Cash:

Pursuant to the Special Terms and Conditions for the New York Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT) Demonstration (11-W-00114/2), the New York State Department of Health (the Department) hereby submits notice to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) of New York State’s (the State’s) intention to add Children and Family Treatment and Support Services (CFTSS) to the Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) benefit package effective January 1, 2019. Provision of these services apply to all mainstream MMC plans, and HIV Special Needs Plans (HIV SNPs).

CFTSS services help children and their families improve their health, well-being, and quality of life. CFTSS are for children less than 21 years old with behavioral health needs. These services may be provided at home or in the community. CFTSS includes:

- Other Licensed Practitioner (OLP): State Plan Amendment (SPA) # 17-0001
- Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR): SPA # 17-0004
- Community Psychiatric Supports and Treatment (CPST): SPA # 17-0004

The Department has taken appropriate steps to prepare for the implementation of CFTSS into the managed care benefit package, including engaging stakeholders throughout the process. Additionally:

- Numerous presentations on CFTSS have occurred and updates provided during the State’s monthly Managed Care Policy and Planning meetings.

- Implementation procedures, service information and billing guidance have been shared with stakeholders, and posted to the Department’s website. In addition, answers to frequently asked questions have been provided and continue to be developed.

- The Department has engaged in ongoing dialogue and education with the State’s enrollment broker, New York Medicaid Choice, to ensure readiness for their role in the implementation of this benefit.
• The Department provided 60 days’ notice to all managed care health plans informing them of the addition of CFTSS into the managed care benefit package. CFTSS is incorporated into the plan’s benefit package in accordance with the State’s Mainstream Medicaid Managed Care/Family Health Plus/HIV Special Needs Plan/Health and Recovery Plan Model Contract, Section 4.3.

• Plan readiness reviews will be conducted prior to January 1, 2019, to ensure that plans have, in fact, enhanced networks, updated policies, procedures and plan benefit materials, and are ready to provide CFTSS on January 1, 2019.

• Coincidental information gleaned during audits of plans has indicated that plans will be able to add these services and make the necessary enhancements to the managed care benefit package.

• An upcoming edition of the Medicaid Update will include an article addressing the addition of CFTSS into the managed care benefit package.

• The Department has developed model notices and handbook language for plans; plans have informed their membership of this service change.

If you have any questions regarding the State’s inclusion of CFTSS in the Medicaid Managed Care benefit package, please contact Ms. Patricia Sheppard of my staff at (518) 473-1134, or by email at patricia.sheppard@health.ny.gov.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Bick  
Director  
Division of Health Plan Contracting and Oversight  
Office of Health Insurance Programs

cc: Adam Goldman, NY’s CMS Project Officer