



FEB - 2 2016

Administrator
Washington, DC 20201

Mr. Darin Gordon
Director
Bureau of TennCare
Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration
310 Great Circle Road
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Mr. Gordon:

This letter is to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving your request to amend the TennCare II section 1115 demonstration (Project No. 11-W-00151/4) through Amendments 27 and 28. Amendment 27 creates the Employment and Community First (ECF) CHOICES program that provides managed long-term services and supports (MLTSS) that promotes and supports integrated, competitive employment and independent, integrated community living.

ECF CHOICES provides coverage for home and community based services (HCBS) and other services for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities (I/DD), as defined by the state. This includes HCBS for individuals currently on the waiting list for receiving services under the state's 1915(c) waivers that serve individuals with I/DD and other individuals who meet the financial and other applicable requirements for such services. ECF CHOICES also provides coverage for individuals with I/DD who are at risk of institutionalization.

Under the ECF CHOICES individuals will be able to choose a managed care plan that will deliver their physical and behavioral health, as well as the following additional supports:

- Essential Family Supports: For children with I/DD, respite, home care services and other community integration supports that will assist families in supporting a child with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Essential Family Supports will also help individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability and their families plan and prepare for transition to employment and integrated, independent living in adulthood.
- Essential Supports for Employment and Independent Living: Services and supports that are critical to helping adults plan and achieve employment and independent living goals, and participate fully in community life.
- Comprehensive Supports for Employment and Community Living: Services and supports that allow individuals with more significant needs related to an intellectual or developmental disability to receive a more intensive level of services and supports in order to plan and achieve employment and integrated community living goals, and to become as independent as possible.

As Tennessee finalizes its capacity and readiness for the ECF CHOICES program, CMS will continue to monitor progress towards implementation.

As the state has requested, CMS is also approving Amendment 28 to eliminate the Standard Spend Down (SSD) eligibility category that was approved in 2007 as a demonstration expenditure authority population of adult Tennesseans who are aged, blind, disabled or caretaker relatives who met spend down requirements. Prior to ending coverage for individuals in this group the state will review eligibility for all other eligibility categories, consistent with 42 C.F.R. 435. 916(f), and provide fair hearing rights as applicable under 42 C.F.R part 431, subpart E.

The demonstration waiver and expenditure authorities and the special terms and conditions (STCs) have been changed to reflect these amendments. This demonstration approval is conditioned upon acceptance and compliance with the enclosed STCs defining the nature, character, and extent of anticipated federal involvement in the project. The state must provide written acknowledgement of the award and acceptance of the STCs, waiver, and expenditure authorities within 30 days of the date of this letter.

Your acceptance and any questions regarding the TennCare II program may be directed to your project officer, Jessica Woodard. Ms. Woodard can be reached at (410) 786-9249 or at Jessica.Woodard@cms.hhs.gov. Communications regarding program matters and official correspondence concerning the demonstration should be submitted to Ms. Woodard at the following address:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
Mail Stop: S2-01-16
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Ms. Woodard and Ms. Jackie Glaze, Associate Regional Administrator, in our Atlanta Regional Office. Ms. Glaze's contact information is as follows:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW, Suite 4T20
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8909
Telephone: (404) 562-7359
E-mail: Jackie.Glaze@cms.hhs.gov

If you have questions regarding this approval, please contact Mr. Eliot Fishman, Director, State Demonstrations Group, Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services at (410) 786-9686. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff on the TennCare II demonstration.

Sincerely,



Andrew M. Slavitt
Acting Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Jackie Glaze, Associate Regional Administrator, CMS Atlanta Regional Office