

PETER SHUMLIN
Governor



State of Vermont
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 23, 2013

Secretary Kathleen Sebelius
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Sebelius:

Through transmittal of this letter and its attachments, Vermont is requesting federal approval to renew its Section 1115 Demonstration, the Global Commitment to Health (11-W-00194/1) beyond the December 31, 2013 expiration date, and to consolidate Vermont's Choices for Care (long-term care) Section 1115 Demonstration and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) into the renewed Global Commitment Demonstration.

A single, consolidated Demonstration will enable Vermont to:

- Build on the successes of both waivers using the Global Commitment model as the foundation.
- Advance both federal and state health reform initiatives, including changes contemplated by the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and Vermont Act 48 (2011).
- Ensure a smooth transition for Vermonters whose health care coverage will change as a result of the ACA, and maintain affordability of the coverage options.
- Streamline program administration, oversight and reporting.
- Manage a seamless system for all acute and long term services and supports for people with developmental disabilities, traumatic brain injuries, and physical disabilities as well as for individuals who are aging.
- Continue to expand the availability of flexible services and supports to assist individuals with complex needs.
- Seamlessly integrate Medicare payments for dually eligible Vermonters into the existing managed care model and provide higher quality care for beneficiaries while achieving efficiencies through a single integrated administrative approach.

Since 1996, Vermont and CMS have partnered to reform health care delivery and financing to make coverage affordable and accessible for low and middle-income Vermonters. The Global Commitment to Health Section 1115 Demonstration and the Choices for Care Long Term Care 1115 Demonstration, both initiated in 2005, serve as the foundation for Vermont's health reform effort. Through these waivers Vermont is provided necessary flexibility to improve access to health coverage and care based on an individual's and family's needs. The Demonstrations have served as a vehicle for achieving the following reform objectives:

- Promoting universal access to affordable health coverage.
- Developing public health approaches for meeting the needs of individuals and families.
- Developing innovative payment approaches focused on outcome and quality.
- Enhancing coordination of care across providers and service delivery systems.
- Controlling program cost growth.

Vermont supports the goals of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to enhance access to health care coverage, improve service delivery and control program cost growth. We are committed to collaborating with CMS to ensure that state and federal health reform activities are complementary and coordinated.

Please contact Stephanie Beck, Director of Health Care Operations (802-871-3265), in Agency of Human Services Secretary Douglas Racine's office to begin the detailed discussions necessary to ensure a successful 2014 renewal.

We look forward to working with you and your staff to continue and expand upon Vermont's successes.

Sincerely,



Peter Shumlin
Governor

cc: Juliana Sharp, CMS
Richard McGreal, CMS
Stephen Mills, CMS
Robert Cruz, CMS

Enclosures