DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850




**Managed Care Group**

July 13, 2026

Trinity Wilson, HCA Director
Health Care Authority
Post Office Box 45502
Olympia, WA 98504-5010

Re: Washington 1915(b)(4) Waiver WA-0015.R01.00

Dear Director Wilson:

We are writing to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving Washington's request to renew its 1915(b)(4) Fee-for-Service (FFS) Selective Contracting Waiver, CMS control number WA-0015.R01.00, titled Consumer Directed Employer (CDE) Waiver. This waiver allows Washington to transfer the administrative functions and responsibilities of personal care and respite Individual Provider (IP) management from the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and Area Agency on Aging (AAA) staff to a contracted CDE vendor, the Consumer Direct Care Washington, LLC, with person-centeredness and self-directed care remaining a top priority. This 1915(b) waiver is authorized under section 1915(b)(4) of the Social Security Act (the Act) and provides a waiver of the following section of Title XIX:

- Section 1902(a)(23) Freedom of Choice

Our decision on the 1915(b) waiver is based on the evidence submitted to CMS demonstrating that the state's proposal is consistent with the purposes of the Medicaid program, will meet all statutory and regulatory requirements for assuring beneficiaries' access to and quality of services, and will be a cost-effective means of providing services to those beneficiaries in Washington's Medicaid population.

This 1915(b) waiver is effective for a five year period beginning October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2031. The state may request renewal of this authority by providing evidence and documentation of satisfactory performance and oversight. Washington's request that this authority be renewed should be submitted to CMS no later than July 3, 2031. Washington will be responsible for documenting the applicable cost-effectiveness and quality in subsequent renewal requests for this authority.

If you have any questions regarding the 1915(b) waiver, please contact Chandni Patel at 410-786-4970 or via email at Chandni.Patel@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Bill Brooks
Director
Division of Managed Care Operations

cc: Rebecca Howard, WA
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