



August 21, 2024

Jacey Cooper, Director
State Demonstrations Group
Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21244

RE: TennCare III Demonstration (Project No. 11-W-00369/4), Amendment 6

Dear Ms. Cooper,

The purpose of this letter is to request a change to the TennCare Demonstration. In this amendment request, Tennessee is proposing to expand its coverage of individuals with disabilities through the establishment of a Work Incentives Group within the TennCare Demonstration. This proposed amendment will result in more persons receiving coverage through the demonstration and advance our shared goals of expanding access to care and advancing health equity.

We look forward to working with you and your team as you review this amendment. If you have questions about this amendment, please contact Aaron Butler at 615.507.6448, or aaron.c.butler@tn.gov.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Stephen Smith
Director, Division of TennCare



Division of TennCare

TennCare III Demonstration

Project No. 11-W-00369/4

Amendment 6

Work Incentives Group for Persons with Disabilities

August 21, 2024

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Amendment 6 to the TennCare III Demonstration

Since 1994, Tennessee has operated its Medicaid program under the authority of an 1115 demonstration known as TennCare. TennCare is a comprehensive Medicaid reform project, consisting of innovations in multiple aspects of Medicaid, including eligibility, benefits, and service delivery systems. Tennessee currently provides Medicaid coverage to approximately 1.4 million Tennesseans under the authority of the TennCare demonstration.

In this demonstration amendment, Tennessee is proposing to extend TennCare coverage to additional working individuals with disabilities. This extended coverage will be known as the Work Incentives Group. Individuals newly qualifying for TennCare coverage under this amendment will be subject to premiums.

The state's objective in this amendment is to remove barriers to employment for individuals with disabilities who, but for their income and resources, would otherwise qualify for coverage under the TennCare demonstration.

I. Description of the Amendment

In this demonstration amendment, Tennessee proposes to establish a Work Incentives Group to extend TennCare coverage to additional working individuals with disabilities. This group is modeled on the Work Incentives Group described in Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII) of the Social Security Act, except where noted in the discussion below.

A note about terminology used in this amendment:

Within the TennCare demonstration:

CHOICES is Tennessee's program of managed long-term services and supports (MLTSS) for seniors and for adults with physical disabilities.

Employment and Community First CHOICES (ECF CHOICES) is Tennessee's managed HCBS program for persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

Current Coverage Options for Persons with Disabilities and Proposed Work Incentives Group

The TennCare demonstration currently provides coverage for persons with disabilities as follows:

- *Persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities* may qualify for TennCare coverage in ECF CHOICES. ECF CHOICES consists of several eligibility groups; the ECF CHOICES group with the

highest income standard is the ECF CHOICES Working Disabled Group.¹ The ECF CHOICES Working Disabled Group is limited to individuals with income no greater than 250 percent of the federal poverty level, and with resources totaling no more than \$2,000.

- *Seniors and adults with physical disabilities* with long-term care needs may qualify for TennCare coverage in CHOICES. Depending on individuals' level of functional need, they may qualify for TennCare in either the CHOICES 217-Like Group or the CHOICES At Risk Demonstration Group.² Both of these groups are limited to individuals with income no greater than 300 percent of the SSI federal benefit rate, and with resources totaling no more than \$2,000.

Note that this is not an exhaustive list of all eligibility categories for persons with disabilities within the TennCare demonstration. These are the eligibility categories within the demonstration that currently have the highest income and resource standards.

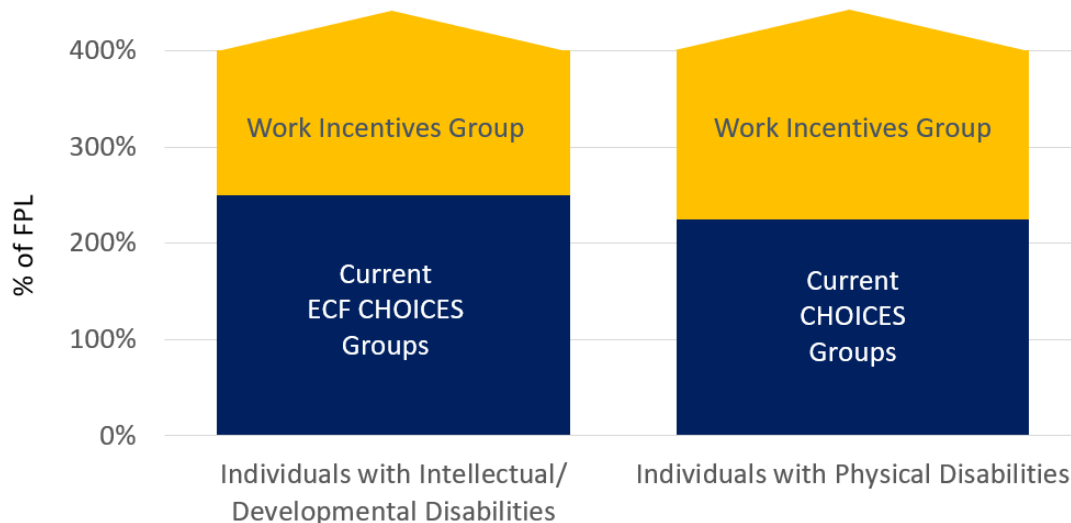
In this amendment, Tennessee proposes to create a new Work Incentives Group for persons with disabilities whose income and/or resources exceed the limits for these existing categories of coverage. This Work Incentives Group will provide a pathway to TennCare coverage for persons who would otherwise qualify for CHOICES or ECF CHOICES but who have excess income or resources due to employment.

Figure 1 on the following page illustrates the relationship between the proposed Work Incentives Group and TennCare's existing categories of coverage for persons with disabilities.

¹ See Expenditure Authority 22 of the TennCare demonstration.

² See Expenditure Authorities 11 and 15 of the TennCare demonstration.

Figure 1. Proposed Addition of Work Incentives Group to Existing Demonstration Framework³



Consistent with Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII) of the Social Security Act, individuals in the proposed Work Incentives Group must have earned income and will be subject to monthly premiums.

The Work Incentives Group will expand access to care for persons with disabilities in Tennessee and help ensure that persons with disabilities who wish to pursue employment are not disincentivized from doing so due to concerns about potentially losing their TennCare coverage because of an increase in earned income or resources.

Additional Population—The Work Incentives Group

In this amendment, Tennessee is proposing to establish a Work Incentives Group within the TennCare demonstration for persons with disabilities.

To qualify in the new Work Incentives Group, individuals must meet the following criteria:

- Must be 18 years of age or older (no maximum age);
- Must meet the level of care criteria for TennCare’s existing programs for persons with disabilities (i.e., CHOICES or ECF CHOICES); and
- Must have earned income.

³ This figure is intended for illustrative purposes only and represents the income limits currently applicable for persons with disabilities in CHOICES and ECF CHOICES, as well as the income limits that will be applicable to persons in the proposed Work Incentives Group. This figure does not illustrate the resource limitations applicable to CHOICES and ECF CHOICES. Also note that the income limits for CHOICES are generally based on the SSI federal benefit rate (SSI/FBR). The current SSI/FBR for an individual has been converted to a percentage of the federal poverty level for purposes of this illustration.

In addition, to qualify in the Work Incentives Group, individuals must meet generally applicable Medicaid eligibility criteria pertaining to state residence, citizenship, Social Security number, and any other applicable criteria unrelated to one's income, resources, or disability status.

There shall be no limitations on eligibility in the Work Incentives Group related to a person's income or resources (i.e., no maximum income or resource standard).

Individuals in the Work Incentives Group will be subject to premiums, and eligibility in the Work Incentives Group may be terminated based on an individual's failure to pay required premiums. Additional information about the premium requirements that will be applicable to the Work Incentives Group is provided below.

Benefits Covered for Individuals Enrolled in the Work Incentives Group

Individuals who qualify for TennCare in the Work Incentives Group as described above will receive the full TennCare benefits package as provided to all other persons determined categorically eligible for TennCare. In addition, individuals in the Work Incentives Group may receive CHOICES HCBS or ECF CHOICES HCBS, to the extent that they meet the applicable criteria for these programs.

For example, an adult with physical disabilities who is determined to meet TennCare's level of care criteria for CHOICES Group 2 or CHOICES Group 3 will be eligible to receive the HCBS available under CHOICES Group 2 or CHOICES Group 3, respectively. An individual with intellectual or developmental disabilities who meets TennCare's level of care criteria for ECF CHOICES may receive ECF CHOICES HCBS consistent with the ECF CHOICES benefit group that they would otherwise qualify for based on their LOC assessment.⁴

Although individuals in the Work Incentives Group may receive CHOICES- or ECF CHOICES-equivalent HCBS based on their level of care needs, Tennessee will track membership in the Work Incentives Group separately from the existing CHOICES and ECF CHOICES populations. Individuals in the Work Incentives Group receiving HCBS will not count against the current enrollment targets established for CHOICES or ECF CHOICES. Individuals in the Work Incentives Group will be tracked and reported separately.

Additionally, because the proposed Work Incentives Group is modeled on Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII) of the Social Security Act (rather than Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(VI)), although individuals *may* elect to receive the HCBS for which they would otherwise qualify based on their level of care needs, individuals are not *required* to be receiving HCBS as a condition of eligibility in the Work Incentives Group. An individual who otherwise meets the criteria for coverage in the Work Incentives Group may elect not to receive HCBS and still qualify for TennCare in this group.

⁴ For a full listing of HCBS benefits available through CHOICES and ECF CHOICES, see Tables 2b and 2d of the TennCare demonstration at <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tennicare/documents/tenncarewaiver.pdf>.

Service Delivery System

Like all other TennCare enrollees, individuals enrolled in the Work Incentives Group will receive their TennCare-covered benefits through the managed care service delivery system authorized under the TennCare demonstration. Individuals in the Work Incentives Group will be enrolled in the TennCare Select health plan for receipt of their TennCare benefits.

Premiums and Cost Sharing Applicable to Individuals Enrolled in the Work Incentives Group

Individuals enrolled in the Work Incentives Group will be subject to monthly premiums equivalent to 5 percent (rounded down to the nearest whole dollar) of countable income, including both earned and unearned income. In determining the premium amount applicable to each individual, the state will count only the income of the enrolled individual and not the income of other household members.

Individuals in the Work Incentives Group will be billed for premiums in the month following the benefit month, with the first monthly premium beginning following the first full month of coverage. Any changes to premium amounts based on changes in an individual's income will become effective the month after the change in income is reported to the state.

The state may terminate an individual's eligibility in the Work Incentives Group if premiums are not paid in full for four consecutive months. If an individual has failed to pay a premium for a particular month, payments subsequently received by that individual will be applied first to premiums owed for past due months, beginning with the most delinquent month, and then progressively to less delinquent months, and then to the current coverage month. Premiums must be paid in full to avoid losing eligibility, and if an individual makes a partial payment, the partial payment does not count as a full payment toward the premium. Any individuals subject to termination of enrollment due to non-payment of premiums will receive all applicable notice and fair hearing rights.

Individuals disenrolled from the Work Incentives Group due to non-payment of premiums must pay all premium arrearages in order to qualify for re-enrollment in the Work Incentives Group. (Premium arrearages will not impact an individual's eligibility for other categories of TennCare coverage.)

Individuals in the Work Incentives Group will be subject to the same cost sharing (i.e., copays) as other TennCare enrollees. Adults who meet the state's level of care criteria for nursing facility care have no copays. Adults who do not meet the level of care criteria for nursing facility care have nominal copays for prescription drugs, consisting of \$3 for brand name drugs and \$1.50 for generic drugs.

Enrollment Target Applicable to the Work Incentives Group

In order to ensure that the state is able to administer coverage for the Work Incentives Group within available funds, the state may establish an enrollment target for the Work Incentives Group. This

enrollment target will be publicly available on the state’s website. If the enrollment target is reached, the state may stop enrolling individuals in the Work Incentives Group until additional slots become available.

Any enrollment target established for the Work Incentives Group will be in addition to and separate from the already existing enrollment targets for the CHOICES and ECF CHOICES programs.

Transitions to Other Categories of TennCare Coverage

The state is proposing to exclude resources that result from earnings during an individual’s enrollment in the Work Incentives Group when determining the individual’s subsequent eligibility for other categories of TennCare coverage. In order to exclude these resources, they must be accumulated in a separate account. This may include IRS-approved retirement accounts.

Companion Change to CHOICES

Currently, CHOICES Group 2 and CHOICES Group 3 provide HCBS to individuals who are age 21 and older who have physical disabilities and who meet Tennessee’s level of care criteria for CHOICES 2 or 3. In this amendment, Tennessee proposes to extend CHOICES Group 2 and Group 3 to individuals age 18 and older who have physical disabilities and who meet the applicable level of care criteria. This includes adjusting the minimum ages for the CHOICES 217-Like Group and the CHOICES At Risk Demonstration Group, as well as the age at which Medicaid-eligible individuals (e.g., SSI recipients) may begin to receive CHOICES HCBS. This change will align the age of HCBS recipients in CHOICES with the age of HCBS recipients in the new Work Incentives Group.

II. Proposed Waiver and Expenditure Authorities

All waiver and expenditure authorities currently approved for the TennCare demonstration will continue to be in effect.

To effectuate the changes described in this amendment, the state requests expenditure authority under Section 1115(a)(2) of the Social Security Act to cover medically necessary care—including any HCBS for which an individual may qualify—for persons in the Work Incentives Group. Tennessee’s proposed Work Incentives Group is modeled on the Work Incentives Group described in Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII) of the Social Security Act, except that it will be subject to an enrollment target as described above. More specifically, this group will cover working age adults with disabilities who have earned income, and who but for their income or resources would be eligible for TennCare in one of the demonstration’s existing eligibility categories for persons with disabilities.

Tennessee also requests any additional waiver authorities determined necessary by CMS in order for the state to establish an enrollment target for the Work Incentives Group as described above, and not to

provide medical assistance to persons in excess of that enrollment target (e.g., any needed waivers of the reasonable promptness requirements located at Section 1902(a)(8) of the Social Security Act).

III. Expected Impact on Budget Neutrality

Implementation of this amendment is expected to result in an increase in TennCare enrollment of approximately 700 persons and an increase in annual aggregate expenditures of approximately \$28 million under the TennCare demonstration.

Attached is an updated overview of the demonstration’s finances that reflects these adjustments.

IV. Expected Impact on CHIP Allotment Neutrality

This amendment will not result in any changes to Tennessee’s CHIP allotment neutrality.

V. Updates to Monitoring and Evaluation Processes

The state does not anticipate modifying its evaluation design based on this amendment. This amendment is expected to contribute to key goals of the TennCare demonstration already reflected in the demonstration’s evaluation design (currently under CMS review). These include enhancing the coverage available under the TennCare demonstration.

Demonstration monitoring reports and processes will be updated to include the number of individuals who receive coverage under this new category of eligibility.

VI. Demonstration of Public Notice and Input

The state has used multiple mechanisms for notifying the public about this amendment and for soliciting public input on the amendment. These public notice and input procedures are informed by—and comply with—the requirements specified in STC 12 of the TennCare demonstration and 59 Fed. Reg. 49249.

Public Notice

The state held a formal notice and comment period on this proposed demonstration amendment from July 8, 2024, through August 9, 2024. During this time, a comprehensive description of the amendment to be submitted to CMS was available for public review and comment on an amendment-specific webpage on the TennCare website. In addition, a notice of the state’s intent to submit a demonstration amendment was published in newspapers of general circulation in Tennessee communities with 50,000 or more residents. This newspaper notice described the major elements of the proposed amendment and provided instructions for how to access the full proposal on the TennCare website. The newspaper notice also provided instructions for submitting comments on the proposed amendment to the state during the notice and comment period. In addition, the state notified the public of its intent to submit a

demonstration amendment via social media (i.e., Facebook, X) with links to the comprehensive notice on the state's website. The state made copies of its notice available in county health departments throughout the state. TennCare also notified the members of the Tennessee General Assembly of this amendment via an electronically transmitted letter.

Documentation of the state's public notice process is attached as Appendix A.

Public Input

The state received comments from 9 individuals and organizations in response to its public notice. All comments were reviewed and considered by the state prior to the submission of this amendment to CMS. The comments received, along with the state's responses, are summarized below.

The comments received by the state are also appended to this amendment in their entirety as Appendix B.

Most commenters supported the state's proposal to establish a Work Incentives Group for working persons with disabilities. These commenters generally supported the implementation of an eligibility category that would allow individuals with disabilities to pursue their work-related goals without jeopardizing their Medicaid eligibility due to increased earnings.

The state thanks these commenters for their support. No changes were made to the amendment based on these comments.

Two commenters supported the state's proposal to track and report enrollment in the new Work Incentives Group separately from TennCare's existing HCBS programs (CHOICES and ECF CHOICES). These commenters agreed that enrollment in the Work Incentives Group should not negatively impact the capacity of the state to continue to enroll individuals in other HCBS programs for which they qualify.

The state thanks these commenters for their support. No changes were made to the amendment based on these comments.

One commenter recommended that the state establish performance indicators to help monitor whether increasing the number of individuals receiving HCBS through the demonstration impacts access to services (e.g., wait times for initiation of services). If increases in HCBS enrollment are found to lead to increased wait times for HCBS, the state should take action to increase the number of available providers and staff, including increases to reimbursement rates. Another commenter expressed concern that individuals who qualify for the demonstration's existing HCBS programs sometimes experience delays before beginning to receive HCBS. This commenter inquired how this dynamic would be impacted by increasing the number of individuals potentially eligible for HCBS under the demonstration.

The state thanks these commenters for their thoughtful comments and recommendations. The state is committed to ensuring meaningful access to covered services for all individuals enrolled in the TennCare demonstration, and to that end the state monitors a number of indicators relative to access to care, including HCBS, on an ongoing basis. If implementation of this proposed amendment results in significant changes in performance on access-related metrics, the state will work with stakeholders to identify actions to mitigate those effects. No changes were made to the amendment based on this comment.

One commenter supported the state’s proposal to modify the minimum age for receipt of CHOICES HCBS from 21 to 18.

The state thanks this commenter for their support. No changes were made to the amendment based on this comment.

One commenter requested that the state track and publicly report on enrollment in the Work Incentives Group, as well as enrollment targets applicable to the Work Incentives Group and expenditures attributable to individuals in the Work Incentives Group.

The state appreciates this recommendation. The state anticipates regular public reporting to CMS on Work Incentives Group enrollment, enrollment targets, and expenditures as part of the federal monitoring process for the TennCare demonstration. We are also open to working with stakeholders to identify other public reporting opportunities that may be useful for stakeholders and members of the public.

One commenter supported the state’s proposal to allow individuals in the Work Incentives Group to receive HCBS, to the extent they qualify for HCBS based on their level of care needs, without requiring individuals to receive HCBS as a condition of enrollment in the Work Incentives Group.

The state thanks the commenter for their support. No changes were made to the amendment based on this comment.

One commenter recommended that the state establish a stakeholder advisory group specifically to advise on implementation of the Work Incentives Group. This commenter believed that such an advisory group is critical for the successful design and implementation of the Work Incentives Group.

The state appreciates this commenter’s recommendation. The state agrees that stakeholder input will be important to the successful implementation of the Work Incentives Group, and the state is open to working with interested stakeholders to identify the most effective means of receiving input on the implementation of the Work Incentives Group. This may include TennCare’s existing stakeholder input processes and mechanisms or the establishment of new stakeholder input mechanisms or advisory groups (or both).

One commenter recommended that individuals currently enrolled in TennCare as Disabled Adult Children⁵ or in the “Pickle” group⁶ should have the option to enroll in the Work Incentives Group.

The purpose of the Work Incentives Group is to provide Medicaid eligibility to individuals who do not qualify for TennCare in any existing eligibility category due to excess income or resources. To the extent that an individual qualifies for and is enrolled in TennCare in an existing eligibility category, that individual is already covered by TennCare and does not need an additional pathway to coverage. If such an individual were to no longer qualify for TennCare in their current category of eligibility due to an increase in income or resources, then that individual could qualify for continued coverage in the Work Incentives Group, subject to meeting the criteria specified in this amendment. No changes were made to the amendment based on this comment.

One commenter encouraged the state to conduct periodic evaluations of the cost effectiveness of administering monthly premiums. This commenter also recommended that the state publicize its process for calculating monthly premium amounts for individuals whose employment income varies by hours worked per month or seasonally.

The state appreciates the commenter’s thoughtful suggestions. As noted above, the state does not anticipate modifying its evaluation design based on the policies outlined in this amendment, beyond measuring the extent to which implementation of a Work Incentives Group within the TennCare demonstration increases coverage for persons with disabilities in Tennessee. The state will work with CMS to determine if any additional modifications to the demonstration evaluation design to reflect the policies outlined in this amendment are needed. However, we note that federal law generally permits premiums for individuals in the Work Incentives Group described at Section 1902(a)(10)(ii)(XIII) of the Social Security Act and other similar “buy-in” groups, and as such, the state does not regard the proposed premiums to be an “experimental” feature of the proposed amendment. The state anticipates that prior to implementation, its process for calculating and collecting premiums will be addressed publicly in administrative rules, which will be promulgated in a manner consistent with Tennessee’s uniform administrative procedures act. No changes were made to the amendment based on this comment.

One commenter supported the state’s proposal to apply the same cost sharing to individuals in the Work Incentives Group as all other adults (who are not exempt from cost sharing) enrolled in the TennCare demonstration.

The state thanks the commenter for their support. No changes were made to the amendment based on this comment.

One commenter supported the state’s proposal to exclude resources accrued while an individual is enrolled in the Work Incentives Group when determining the individual’s subsequent eligibility for

⁵ See Section 1634(c) of the Social Security Act.

⁶ See 42 CFR § 435.135.

other categories of TennCare coverage. This commenter requested that the state provide clarification about how non-liquid resources purchased with earned income while enrolled in the Work Incentives Group would be considered when determining eligibility for other categories of TennCare coverage.

The state thanks the commenter for their thoughtful comment. The state will work with CMS to determine the extent to which resources accrued during an individual's enrollment in the Work Incentives Group may be excluded when determining the individual's subsequent eligibility for other categories of TennCare coverage and will ensure that all exclusions determined to be permissible are clearly articulated and communicated to applicants, enrollees, and the public.

One commenter recommended that the eligibility criteria applied by TennCare to single parents with children be changed.

This comment is outside the scope of the amendment, which is specific to working individuals with disabilities. The state will take this comment into consideration when considering future opportunities to enhance coverage or benefits under the demonstration.

One commenter asserted that the state's Medicaid application requests too much information from applicants.

This comment is outside the scope of the amendment. The state's application requests the information needed to make a Medicaid eligibility determination, consistent with federal requirements. Consistent with federal requirements, the state's application does not require information not needed to make a Medicaid eligibility determination. No changes were made to the amendment based on this comment.

Appendix A

Documentation of Public Notice

Notice of Change to the TennCare III Demonstration

Amendment 6

Published July 8, 2024

The Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Finance & Administration is providing official notification of intent to file an amendment to the TennCare III demonstration. This amendment, which will be known as “Amendment 6,” will be filed with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). In Amendment 6, Tennessee is proposing to extend TennCare coverage to additional working individuals with disabilities. Individuals newly qualifying for TennCare under this amendment will be subject to premiums. This amendment also includes a companion change to the TennCare CHOICES program.

Description of Amendment and Affected Populations

Eligibility

In this amendment, Tennessee is proposing to establish a Work Incentives Group within the TennCare demonstration for working persons with disabilities.

To qualify in the new Work Incentives Group, individuals must meet the following criteria:

- Must be 18 years of age or older (no maximum age);
- Must meet the level of care (LOC) criteria for TennCare’s existing programs for persons with disabilities (i.e., CHOICES or ECF CHOICES); and
- Must have earned income.

There will be no limitations on eligibility in the Work Incentives Group related to a person’s income or resources (i.e., no maximum income or resource standard).

Benefits

Individuals who qualify for TennCare in the Work Incentives Group as described above will receive the full TennCare benefits package as provided to all other persons enrolled in TennCare. In addition, individuals in the Work Incentives Group may receive home- and community-based services (HCBS), to the extent that they meet the applicable criteria for the TennCare demonstration’s existing HCBS programs (i.e., CHOICES and Employment and Community First CHOICES).

Service Delivery System

Like all other TennCare enrollees, individuals enrolled in the Work Incentives Group will receive their TennCare-covered benefits through the managed care service delivery system

authorized under the TennCare demonstration. Individuals in the Work Incentives Group will be enrolled in the TennCare Select health plan for receipt of their TennCare benefits.

Premiums and Cost Sharing

Individuals enrolled in the Work Incentives Group will be subject to monthly premiums equivalent to 5 percent of countable income. Individuals enrolled in the Work Incentives Group who fail to pay required premiums in full for four consecutive months may be subject to disenrollment. Individuals in the Work Incentives Group will be subject to the same copays as all other adults enrolled in TennCare.

Enrollment Target

In order to ensure that the state is able to administer coverage for the Work Incentives Group within available funds, the state may establish an enrollment target for the Work Incentives Group. This enrollment target will be publicly available on the state's website. If the enrollment target is reached, the state may stop enrolling individuals in the Work Incentives Group until additional slots become available.

Any enrollment target established for the Work Incentives Group will be in addition to and separate from the already existing enrollment targets for the CHOICES and ECF CHOICES programs.

Companion Change to CHOICES

Currently, CHOICES Group 2 and CHOICES Group 3 provide HCBS to individuals with physical disabilities who are age 21 or older. In this amendment, Tennessee proposes to open CHOICES Group 2 and Group 3 to individuals age 18 and older who have physical disabilities. This change will align the age of HCBS recipients in CHOICES with the age of HCBS recipients in the new Work Incentives Group.

Expected Impact on Enrollment and Expenditures

The changes proposed in this amendment are expected to result in an increase in TennCare enrollment of approximately 700 persons and an increase in aggregate annual TennCare expenditures of approximately \$28 million.

Evaluation Impact

Tennessee does not anticipate modifying its evaluation design based on this amendment. This amendment is expected to contribute to key goals of the TennCare demonstration

already reflected in the demonstration's evaluation design (currently under CMS review). These include enhancing the coverage available under the TennCare demonstration.

Demonstration monitoring reports and processes will be updated to account for the number of individuals who receive coverage under this new category of eligibility.

Waiver and Expenditure Authorities Requested

All waiver and expenditure authorities currently approved for the TennCare demonstration will continue to be in effect. To effectuate the changes described in this amendment, the state will request expenditure authority under Section 1115(a)(2) of the Social Security Act to cover medically necessary care—including any HCBS for which an individual may qualify—for persons in the Work Incentives Group described above. The state's proposed Work Incentives Group is modeled on the Work Incentives Group described in Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII) of the Social Security Act, except that it may be subject to an enrollment target. More specifically, this group will cover working age adults with disabilities who have earned income, and who but for their income or resources would be eligible for TennCare in one of the demonstration's existing eligibility categories for persons with disabilities. Tennessee will also request any additional waiver authorities determined necessary by CMS in order for the state to establish an enrollment target for the Work Incentives Group as described above (e.g., any needed waivers of the reasonable promptness requirements located at Section 1902(a)(8) of the Social Security Act).

Public Notice Process

TennCare has taken a variety of steps to ensure that members of the public are notified of Amendment 6. These measures include the development and maintenance of this webpage, as well as notices published in newspapers of general circulation in Tennessee communities with 50,000 or more residents. TennCare has disseminated information about the proposed amendment via its social media accounts (e.g., Facebook, X). TennCare has also notified members of the Tennessee General Assembly of its intent to submit Amendment 6.

Public Input Process

TennCare is seeking feedback on Amendment 6 prior to its submission to CMS. Members of the public are invited to offer comments regarding Amendment 6 from July 8, 2024, through August 9, 2024.

Members of the public who wish to comment on the proposed amendment may do so through either of the following options:

- Comments may be sent by email to public.notice.tennccare@tn.gov.
- Comments may be mailed to

Aaron Butler, Director of Policy
Division of TennCare
310 Great Circle Road
Nashville, TN 37243.

TennCare always appreciates input. In order to be considered for the final draft of Amendment 6, feedback must be received no later than August 9, 2024. Individuals wishing to view comments submitted by members of the public may submit their requests to the same physical address and/or email address at which comments are being accepted.

Draft of Amendment 6

A draft of TennCare's proposed demonstration amendment is located at <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tenncare/documents2/DraftVersionOfAmendment6.pdf>. Copies of the draft amendment are also available in each county office of the Tennessee Department of Health. Once comments received during the public input period have been reviewed and considered, a final draft of the amendment will be prepared. The final draft will be submitted to CMS and will then be made available through the webpage located at <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/policy-guidelines/waiver-and-state-plan-public-notices.html>.

TennCare Page on CMS Web Site

As the federal agency with oversight authority over all Medicaid programs, CMS offers its own online resources regarding the TennCare Demonstration. Interested parties may view these materials at

https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/section-1115-demo/demonstration-and-waiver-list/waivers_faceted.html.



TennCare 

Published by [Caleb Nix](#)



· 18h · 

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A public comment period is open for Amendment 6 to the TennCare III demonstration. Amendment 6 will expand TennCare coverage to working individuals with disabilities. This will allow individuals with higher income or resources due to employment to access TennCare coverage through CHOICES or ECF CHOICES.

The public can provide feedback on Amendment 6 through August 9, 2024. For more information, please visit

<http://TN.gov/.../docum.../Amendment6ComprehensiveNotice.pdf>

A close-up, low-angle shot of a silver microphone with a mesh grille, positioned in the foreground. The background is a blurred indoor setting with warm lighting.

**TennCare Amendment 6
public comment period
is open.**



TennCare @TennCare · 18h



A public comment period is open for Amendment 6 to the TennCare III demonstration. Amendment 6 will expand TennCare coverage to working individuals with disabilities.



TennCare @TennCare · 18h

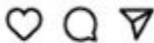


This will allow individuals with higher income or resources due to employment to access TennCare coverage through CHOICES or ECF CHOICES.

The public can provide feedback on Amendment 6 through August 9, 2024. For more information, please visit tn.gov/content/dam/tn...



TennCare Amendment 6 public comment period is open.



tenncarerep A public comment period is open for Amendment 6 to the TennCare III demonstration. Amendment 6 will expand TennCare coverage to working individuals with disabilities. This will allow individuals with higher income or resources due to employment to access TennCare coverage through CHOICES or ECF CHOICES.

The public can provide feedback on Amendment 6 through August 9, 2024. For more information, please visit [TN.gov/content/dam/tn/tenncare/documents2/Amendment6ComprehensiveNotice.pdf](https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tenncare/documents2/Amendment6ComprehensiveNotice.pdf)



TennCare

3,299 followers

18h • 



A public comment period is open for Amendment 6 to the TennCare III demonstration. Amendment 6 will expand TennCare coverage to working individuals with disabilities. This will allow individuals with higher income or resources due to employment to access TennCare coverage through CHOICES or ECF CHOICES.

The public can provide feedback on Amendment 6 through August 9, 2024. For more information, please visit <https://lnkd.in/eKPrVrvn>

Amendment6ComprehensiveNotice.pdf

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Chattanooga Times Free Press

Account #: AP105178

Company: BUREAU OF TENNCARE
310 GREAT CIRCLE RD
NASHVILLE, TN 37243

Ad number #: 419195

PO #:

Matter of: Notice of Change in TennCare III Demonst

AFFIDAVIT • STATE OF TENNESSEE • HAMILTON COUNTY

Before me personally appeared Samara Swafford, who being duly sworn that she is the Legal Sales Representative of the CHATTANOOGA TIMES FREE PRESS, and that the Legal Ad of which the attached is a true copy, has been published in the above named newspaper and on the corresponding newspaper website on the following dates, to-wit:

Times Free Press 07/10/24; TimesFreePress.com 07/10/24

And that there is due or has been paid the CHATTANOOGA TIMES FREE PRESS for publication the sum of \$345.90.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this date: 11th day of July, 2024



[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Signature]

My Commission Expires 12/14/2026

Chattanooga Times Free Press

400 EAST 11TH ST
CHATTANOOGA, TN 37403

**Notice of Change in TennCare III
Demonstration
Amendment 6**

The Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Finance & Administration is providing official notification, pursuant to 59 Fed. Reg. 49249, of intent to file an amendment to the TennCare III demonstration. The amendment, which will be known as "Amendment 6," will be filed with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), a federal agency located in Baltimore, Maryland.

In Amendment 6, Tennessee is proposing to establish a Work Incentives Group within the TennCare demonstration for working persons with disabilities. To qualify in the new Work Incentives Group, individuals must be 18 years of age or older, meet the level of care criteria for TennCare's existing programs for persons with disabilities (i.e., CHOICES or ECF CHOICES), and have earned income. There will be no limitations on eligibility in the Work Incentives Group related to a person's income or resources.

Individuals who qualify for TennCare in the Work Incentives Group will receive the full TennCare benefits package. These individuals may also receive home- and community-based services (HCBS), to the extent that they meet the applicable criteria for the TennCare demonstration's existing HCBS programs. Individuals in the Work Incentives Group will be enrolled in the TennCare Select health plan for receipt of their TennCare benefits.

Individuals enrolled in the Work Incentives Group will be subject to monthly premiums equivalent to 5 percent of countable income. Individuals enrolled in the Work Incentives Group who fail to pay required premiums in full for four consecutive months may be subject to disenrollment. Individuals in the Work Incentives Group will be subject to the same copays as all other adults enrolled in TennCare.

In order to ensure that the state is able to administer coverage for the Work Incentives Group within available funds, the state may establish an enrollment target for the Work Incentives Group. If the enrollment target is reached, the state may stop enrolling individuals in the Work Incentives Group until additional slots become available.

In addition to the changes described above, Tennessee is proposing to lower the age at which individuals with disabilities may receive HCBS through the CHOICES program from 21 to 18.

The changes proposed in this amendment are expected to result in an increase in TennCare enrollment of approximately 700 persons and an increase in aggregate annual TennCare expenditures of approximately \$28 million.

The full public notice associated with this proposed amendment, including a comprehensive description of the amendment, is available on the TennCare website at

<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tenn-care/documents2/Amendment6ComprehensiveNotice.pdf>.

Members of the public who wish to comment on TennCare's proposal may send written comments by mail to Mr. Aaron Butler, Director of Policy, Division of TennCare, 310 Great Circle Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37243, or by email to public.notice.tenncare@tn.gov. Persons wishing to review copies of written comments received may submit their requests to the same email and/or physical address. The last day on which comments will be accepted is August 9, 2024.

Copies of this notice will be available in each county office of the Tennessee Department of Health.

We do not treat people in a different way because of their race, color, birthplace, language, age, disability, religion, or sex. <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/members-applicants/civil-rights-compliance.html>

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION


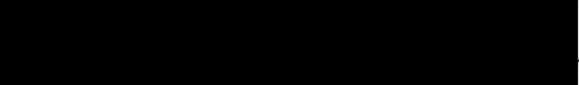
Jonathan Reeve
TennCare Bureau State Of Tennessee
310 Great Circle RD
Nashville TN 37243-1700

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

The Commercial Appeal, a newspaper published in the city of
Memphis, Shelby County, State of Tennessee, and personal
knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto
annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issue dated and
was published on the publicly accessible website:

07/11/2024

and that the fees charged are legal.
Sworn to and subscribed before on 07/11/2024



5-15-27
My commission expires

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THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE!

Please do not use this form for payment remittance.

NANCY HEYRMAN
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

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2/Amendment16ComprehensiveNotice.pdf

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<https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/members-applicants/civil-rights-compliance.html>



Tennessee
GANNETT

PO Box 631340 Cincinnati, OH 45263-1340

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Jonathan Reeve
Attn: Jonathan Reeve
Bureau Of TennCare
310 Great Circle Rd
Nashville TN 37243-1700

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

The Jackson Sun, a newspaper published in the city of Jackson, Madison County, State of Tennessee, and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issue dated and was published on the publicly accessible website:

07/12/2024

and that the fees charged are legal.
Sworn to and subscribed before on 07/12/2024

Legal Clerk

Notary, State of WI, County of Brown

My commission expires

Publication Cost: \$604.60
Tax Amount: \$0.00
Payment Cost: \$604.60
Order No: 10368257 # of Copies: 1
Customer No: 1329949
PO #: AMENDMENT 6

THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE!

Please do not use this form for payment remittance.

MARIAH VERHAGEN
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

10368257

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**Affidavit of Publication
JOHNSON CITY PRESS**

105 East Walnut Street • Johnson City
County of Washington, State of Tennessee

I, Ron Waite, being duly sworn upon oath, deposes and state that I am the publisher of the Johnson City Press, a daily newspaper published in the City of Johnson City, County of Washington, in the State of Tennessee. This Legal Notice contains a true and correct copy of what was published in the regular edition of said newspaper, in consecutive issues on the following dates:

Publication Dates: 07/11/2024, , ,

Ad#: 4291 Amendment 6

[Redacted Signature]

Ron Waite

Signed and sworn to before me
on 07/11/2024

[Redacted Signature]

Rose Lynn Brooks - Notary Public
My commission expires: July 19, 2025



This legal notice was published online at www.johnsoncitypress.com and www.tnpublicnotice.com during the dates listed.
This publication fully complies with Tennessee Code.

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PUB 1T: 7/11/2024

Legals

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY AT JONESBOROUGH, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Case No. 24-PR-0176

ESTATE OF
ALFRED BENTZ

Notice is hereby given that on the 25th day of June, 2024, Letters Testamentary in respect to the Estate of Alfred Bentz deceased, who died May 4, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk & Master of the Probate Court for Washington County, at Jonesborough, Tennessee.

All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against said Estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

The 25th day of June, 2024

(signed)
Joseph Michael Deakins
and
Karen A. Deakins
Personal Representatives

Estate of Alfred Bentz

By: Kaitlyn A. Sell
Attorney

Sarah Lawson
Clerk & Master

PUB 2T: 7/11/2024, 7/18/2024

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY AT JONESBOROUGH, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Case No. 24-PR-0179

ESTATE OF
KERMIT WADE WOOD

Notice is hereby given that on the 2nd day of July, 2024, Letters Testamentary in respect to the Estate of Kermit Wade Wood deceased, who died June 11, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk & Master of the Probate Court for Washington County, at Jonesborough, Tennessee.

All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against said Estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

The 2nd day of July, 2024

(signed)
Daniel Wade Wood
Personal Representative

Estate of Kermit Wade Wood

By: Brett A. Cole
Attorney for Personal Representative
Brett Cole Law, PLLC
101 Med Tech Pkwy, Ste. 404
Johnson City, TN. 37604
Phone (423) 283-7009

Sarah Lawson
Clerk & Master

PUB 2T: 7/11/2024, 7/18/2024

EMPLOYMENT

205 General Employment

Looking to hire someone part time to help with errands. Must have own car licensed & insured. Good Pay. 423-426-8325

NOW HIRING:
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Polishing Technicians
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120 General Services

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MAKING YOUR Advertising Dollars go further is a natural with a Classified Ad. List your business services here daily.

EMPLOYMENT

250 Office Clerical

Part Time Office Position

The Herald & Tribune has an opening for a customer service and staff support position. The Herald & Tribune is a weekly newspaper located in Jonesborough, TN. This position is part time, Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (hours are slightly flexible)

Skills sets we are looking for include effective verbal and written skills and the ability to multitask in a deadline-oriented office environment. Organizational and above average computer skills a plus.

Please forward letter of interest and resume to:
Ashley Blevins
c/o Herald & Tribune
701 Lynn Garden Drive
Kingsport, TN 37660
or email to:
ablevins@sixriversmedia.com



MERCHANDISE

305 Garage Yard Sales

Awesome Blue Moon Estate Sale in Alexander, NC. 428 Curtis Parker Rd Alexander, NC 28701 Fri, 7/12 9am-3pm Sat, 7/13 9am-3pm Saturday everything is 50%! Everything must GO! Entirely too many items to list. A must see sale.

ERWIN-HUGE GARAGE SALE
110 Tony Ave
Friday, (7/12) & Sat, (7/13)
8am-? Books, toys, clothing, household items, comic books, vintage and collectibles and lots more!

Jonesborough-Morning Sale (*cool inside*)
135 Thistle-down Circle
Fri & Sat 8am-6pm
Patio & house furniture, pictures, mirrors and lamps. Must go!

MIDWAY - 305 Castaway Dr. Kpt. 37663 Estate/Garage Sale By Owner July 11th-13th, 8am-2pm. Antique furniture, vintage items, dining room table & chairs, curio cabinet, 5 pc. king size bedroom suite, collectibles, figurines, crystal, china, and too many household items to list. Rain or Shine.

SERVICE DIRECTORY

120 General Services

SIMPLE MAN CONSTRUCTION & REMODELING
Bathroom / Kitchen Remodeling, Deck / Porch Builds, Additions, Flooring, Siding, Concrete etc.
Call for a free estimate: 423-343-4449

130 Home Improvements

ACE SIDING
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Asphalt Sealing I Crack Filling Sealer is hand applied! 423-631-0012 Veteran Discounts

MERCHANDISE

305 Garage Yard Sales

M&P ESTATE SALES has the honor of sharing the Estate of Arlene (Candi) Tomola at 217 Joe Hale Dr., Boones Creek. Fri. July 12th & Sat. July 13th, 9am-2pm. This home has beautiful furnishings that include primitives, antiques, bedroom suites, Barca lounge, leather couch & chair, tools, miter saw, metal shelves, Dwight Yoakam items, CD's, beautiful book-cases, cast iron patio furniture, Tiffany lamps, & so much more. See pics on Facebook at Northeast Tennessee Estate Sale Treasures

PROFESSIONAL ESTATE SALE

** Sale Address **
114 Dogwood Village Road
Jonesborough, TN 37659

** Sale Dates **
Thursday, July 11
4:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Friday, July 12
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday, July 13
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

OUTLAND ESTATE LIQUIDATORS
423-342-5911
OutlandEstateLiquidators.com

400 Fuel

All FIREWOOD
Split hardwood, big load. 423-773-0449 or 423-232-0470

440 Household Antiques

Bamboo Corner 5' High Shelving Unit. Five shelves for displaying bric-brac, storing towels, etc. \$25. 423-747-4867

Hoover Shampooer Steam Vac SpinScrub 50 w/Attachments. Easy to use. Easy to clean. Faster dry time. Works good. \$75. 423-747-4867

460 Lawn/Garden Equipment

CRAFTSMAN LAWN MOWER. 42-inch riding mower Model T110. Currently has mulching kit installed. Extra set of regular blades. Everything works. Can send pics. \$425. Call (423) 213-5493.

Earthwise 12 amp electric lawn mower \$75 (price is firm), Operator's manual, but no cord. Purchased in 2019. Little use. 423-926-9618

RIDING MOWER \$100
423-543-7977

480 Machinery Tools

Victor torch handle model 315, 0382-0017 also cutting attachment 315 0382-0017. Both are in original boxes and never used. \$200 for both. 423-737-8151

SERVICE DIRECTORY

190 Lawn Service

Church's Landscaping - Trim + plant bushes, clean design, mulch + flowerbeds. Residential & Commercial 423-647-6156

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ANTHONY MCNALLY TREE & STUMP REMOVAL
Formerly known as Patriot Tree. Free estimates! Call 423-534-4637

DOGWOOD TREE WORKS
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HAVE SPURS WILL CLIMB TREE SERVICE
Quality work/reasonable prices. Quick response and service. 5-Star rating. Free Estimates. Call 423-574-2122

MERCHANDISE

500 Miscellaneous

Mail box, beige color, fits over a 4X4 post (not included). Sells at Lowes for more than \$70. Sell for \$40. Can send pics. Call (423) 213-5493.

Portable ramp for truck, trailer, outbuilding, etc. Made with two 2X12X84 boards with aluminum ramp ends. \$60. Can send pics. Call (423) 213-5493.

2 Cornhole Platforms \$80.00
423-543-7977

520 Pets Supplies

BEAUTIFUL REGISTERED POMERANIAN PUPPIES
Rare blacks and party colors, parents on premise, will be small. \$500 Call 423-234-4691 or 423-278-8731

DESIGNER PUPPIES
PURE BREED POODLES & MALTIPOOS
Hypoallergenic and non shedding. Great for children with allergies. There is a re-homing fee. Call 423-282-8913 or 423-930-4360

FAWN COLORED MALE LONG HAIRED CHIHUAHUA;
Registered with papers, 10 months old, 4lbs. Call 423-297-5995

540 Sports Equipment

EXERCISE SHAKER MACHINE by U.S. Jaclean Works great! Can text pic. \$50. Call 423.833.4506 I don't have the instruction booklet.

RENTALS

605 Apartments Furnished



INCL UTILITIES
MOVE-IN
EXTRA \$100 OFF THIS MONTH
KITCHEN REFRIGERATOR & MICROWAVE
CABLE, WI-FI,
\$239 FIRST WEEK
\$799 FIRST MONTH
CALL 423-245-0271

PLANNING A Garage Sale? Tell the entire community with a classified ad.

RENTALS

640 Mobile Homes for Rent

Nice 2BR 1BA MOBILE HOME Refrigerator and stove furnished, washer / dryer hookup, located in a small quiet park south of Erwin, TN, in the Chestoa Pike area, near the Nolichucky River and the Appalachian Trail. 1 1/2 miles from I-26 from exit 40. NO pets, references required, \$550 / mo and \$275 dep. Call between 9am-9pm 423-753-4074

650 Rooms for Rent

Americourt Extended Stays
Weekly \$249
Furnished, All utilities included
1900 American Way, Kingsport, TN 37660
423-245-0271

REAL ESTATE

705 Houses for Sale



Big, beautiful custom brick ranch, situated on over 4 acres in Mountain City, Tennessee. You will love entertaining all your family and friends in this 2,500 sq.ft., three bedroom, two and a half bath, two dining rooms, living room and sunroom home. The home features Anderson windows and doors. It has both electric and emergency gas heat. There's a two car garage, an additional garage with plumbed bathroom (not hooked up to sewer yet), and a third building that includes electricity. There's multiple water spouts throughout the property for ease of garden care. For your RV, there's a full hook up service. Sit back and enjoy a glass of sweet tea and mountain views from the oversize front porch. You will surely want to make this your home. To view this home, you must have proof of funds from your financial institution of \$600,000 Call or text Amy at 502-500-7494, sorry no realtors at this time.



ELIZABETHTON
Fitzsimmons Hill near Lovers Lane. Lots of privacy on 3+ acres. 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick home 2200 square feet with full unfinished basement. \$275,000 (423)543-5638

770 Cemeteries Lots

Two spaces for sale in Washington County Memory Gardens near the small Mausoleum. Also includes one lawn crypt, one opening and closing, a 12x14 bronze marker and transfer of deed. Approximate value is \$8,300. Will take \$3,800. Call 423-341-7735

IT'S AS Easy as picking up your telephone. Call us with your classified ad now!

Notice of Change in TennCare III Demonstration Amendment 6

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PUB 1T: 7/11/2024

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

TennCare Bureau State Of Tennessee
310 Great Circle RD
Nashville TN 37243-1700

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

The Knoxville News-Sentinel, a daily newspaper published in the city of Knoxville, Knox County, State of Tennessee, and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issue dated and was published on the publicly accessible website:

07/11/2024

and that the fees charged are legal.
Sworn to and subscribed before on 07/11/2024

Legal Clerk

My commission expires

Publication Cost: \$283.58

Tax Amount: \$0.00

Payment Cost: \$283.58

Order No: 10366508

Customer No: 1331629

PO #: Amendment 6

of Copies:
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NANCY HEYRMAN
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

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Tennessee
GANNETT

PO Box 631340 Cincinnati, OH 45263-1340

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Jonathan Reeve
Attn: Jonathan Reeve
Bureau Of TennCare
310 Great Circle Rd
Nashville TN 37243-1700

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

The Leaf Chronicle, a newspaper published in the city of Clarksville, Montgomery County, State of Tennessee, and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issue dated and was published on the publicly accessible website:

07/12/2024

and that the fees charged are legal.
Sworn to and subscribed before on 07/12/2024

Legal Clerk

Notary, State of WI, County of Brown

My commission expires

Publication Cost: \$452.80

Tax Amount: \$0.00

Payment Cost: \$452.80

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of Copies:

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MARIAH VERHAGEN
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

10368280

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AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Jonathan Reeve
Attn: Jonathan Reeve
Bureau Of TennCare
310 Great Circle Rd
Nashville TN 37243-1700

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and that the fees charged are legal.
Sworn to and subscribed before on 07/12/2024

Legal Clerk

Notary, State of WI, County of Brown

My commission expires

Publication Cost: \$1583.02

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Payment Cost: \$1583.02

Order No: 10368237

Customer No: 1329949

PO #: AMENDMENT 6

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MARIAH VERHAGEN
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

10368237

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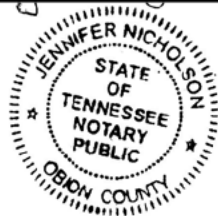
Personally appeared before me, the undersigned Notary Public for Obion County, Tennessee, Tina Isbell, who on oath says he/she is the Classified Advertising Manager of the Union City Daily Messenger, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, published at Union City in said county and state, and that the hereto attached

Notice was published in said paper for 1 days/weeks as follows

Classified Advertising Manager

Subscribed and sworn to me this 10th day of July, 2024.

Notary Public



My Commission Expires
July 28, 2027

The Messenger

CLASSIFIEDS

Misc. For Sale • Services • Real Estate • Help Wanted

Legal

LAND SALE

JANICE ORNDORFF, IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF OBION COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Plaintiff,

CIVIL ACTION NO. 35,112

VS.

JUDD LEE BOND,

Defendant.

In obedience to a decree of the Chancery Court at Union City, Tennessee, entered on the 14th day of February, 2023, in the above-styled case, I will on **THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2024**, at 10:00 a.m., via online auction with GovEase.com sell to the highest and best bidder the property in said decree described, being a parcel of land known as the Janice Orndorff and Judd Lee Bond Property lying and being in the 2nd Civil District of Obion County, Tennessee, and described herein as follows:

Being a 0.425 acre lot located at 370 Thompson Street in the City of Woodland Mills, Tennessee and lying in the 2nd Civil District of Obion County, and being part of Parcel 18 Group A Tax Map 23-C and that of record in the Deed names of William R. and Bertha Nanney, Deeds of reference: Deed Book 12-X, Page 565, Deed Book 12-X, page 135, Deed of Correction in Deed Book 14-V, Page 26, part of Deed Book 14-N, Page 170, Will Book II Page 79, as recorded in the Register's Office of Obion County, Tennessee as more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a set iron pin in the east right of way of Thompson Street (State Highway No. 5), located 50.0 feet east of the centerline of said street, said set iron pin lies South 16 degrees 29 minutes 02 seconds East, 240.86 feet from a point in the south line of a lot belonging to the Town of Woodland Mills (DB. 22-G PG 721), as measured along the east right of way of said Thompson Street, said **POINT OF BEGINNING** being the northwest corner of the 0.425 acre lot being described herein;

Thence, **NORTH** 75 degrees 24 minutes 00 seconds **EAST**, a distance of 164.89 feet, making a severance line

thru Nanney (DB. 12-N PG. 170), running on the south side of a section of wood fence part of the distance, to a set iron pin in a chain link fence and in the west line of a tract belonging to Barnes (DB. 22-K PG. 43), said set iron pin lies in the center of an abandoned railroad right of way and is also located South 15 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East, 243.97 feet from a found iron pin (5/8 inch diameter steel rebar) at the southeast corner of said Town of Woodland Mills lot;

Thence, **SOUTH** 15 degrees 40 minutes 58 seconds **EAST**, a distance of 112.42 feet, along the west line of said Barnes and the center of said abandoned railroad right of way, running generally with a chain link fence, passing thru a chain link fence transition post on line at 5.5 feet, continuing to a chain link fence corner post at a lot belonging to Sergerson (RB. 250 PG. 454);

Thence, **SOUTH** 75 degrees 11 minutes 07 seconds **WEST**, a distance of 163.32 feet, along the north line of said Sergerson, along a chain link fence part of the distance, passing thru a chain link fence corner post on line at 107.56 feet, continuing to a set iron pin in the east right of way of said Thompson Street, said set iron pin being Sergerson's northwest corner and is located 15.82 feet east of the center of a fire hydrant;

Thence, **NORTH** 16 degrees 28 minutes 28 seconds **WEST**, a distance

of 113.07 feet, along the east right of way of said Thompson Street, to the point of beginning, containing 0.425 acres or 18,496.0 square feet. All bearings are based upon Grid North of the Tennessee State Plane Coordinate System, NAD 83 (2011). All set iron pins are 5/8" X 24" rebar, approximately 24 inches in length, with pink plastic caps marked "ASHBURN NICHOLS & ASSOC".

DEED REFERENCE: Deed Book 12-X, Page 565, Deed Book 12-X, page 135, Deed of Correction in Deed Book 14-V, Page 26, part of Deed Book 14-N, Page 170, Will Book II, Page 79, Register's Office, Obion County, Tennessee.

TAX MAP 23-C, GROUP A, PARCEL 18.00

ADDRESS: 370 South Thompson Street Union City, TN 38261

The minimum/starting bid on the property will be Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00). Sale will be made for cash, 10% to be paid within 24 hours of the sale, with the remaining balance due no later than 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 6, 2024. No increased offers will be accepted on the property after bidding ends on July 25, 2024.

This the 25th day of June, 2024.

EMILY HALL
SPECIAL COMMISSIONER

07/03/2024, 07/10/2024, 07/17/2024

Notice

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07/10/2024



Auto Directory

LOOKING FOR A NEW OR USED VEHICLE?

Find a dealer with ease with this local directory.

1

MURRAY, KY
TOYOTA OF MURRAY
1307 S. 12th • Murray, KY
270-753-4961
www.toyotaofmurray.com

2

UNION CITY, TN
JERRY WARD AUTOPLEX
524 E. Reelfoot Ave. • Union City, TN
731-599-1199
www.jerrywardautoplex.com

.....

CAR MART

1507 E. Reelfoot Ave. • Union City, TN
731-886-0360
www.HermanJenkins.com

.....

HERMAN JENKINS MOTORS

2030 W. Reelfoot Ave. • Union City, TN
731-885-2811
www.HermanJenkins.com

.....



USE THIS HANDY DIRECTORY TO SHOP FOR YOUR NEW OR USED VEHICLE!

SUDOKU

PUZZLE NO. 981

	3			4			6	
9		4						
7				5	1			4
	5		7	4				
3			1				8	
			6		7	9		
						9		
		2	8					
				7		1	3	

LEVEL: ADVANCED

HOW TO PLAY:

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: you must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column or 3x3 box.


ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 981

8	1	2	9	7	4	5	6	3
4	5	9	6	8	3	2	1	7
8	7	6	2	1	9	8	4	5
1	6	7	5	9	8	3	7	2
5	9	7	6	2	1	4	9	8
9	2	8	7	4	6	9	1	5
4	5	1	8	5	6	9	2	7
2	4	9	1	9	8	7	8	6
6	9	8	4	7	2	1	5	3

COMICS

Nancy

By Olivia Jaimes



HA! YOU WOULD ASSUME THAT.

ACCORDING TO MY RESEARCH, THE SECRET TO GREAT ART IS **SIMPLICITY**.

ONLY AN AMATEUR CLUTTERS HER WORK WITH OBFUSCATING DISPLAYS OF SAGACITY! THE ADEPT EMBRACES CLARITY!

AS PICASSO SAID, "IT TOOK ME FOUR YEARS TO PAINT LIKE RAPHAEL, BUT A LIFETIME TO PAINT AS A CHILD." THE INFINITE POTENTIAL SUGGESTED.

MILDRED SAYS GREAT ART IS ABOUT SIMPLICITY. IS SHE TRYING TO TRICK ME?

NO, IT'S TRUE.

AS AN ARTIST, I'VE LEARNED THE VALUE OF MINIMALISM.

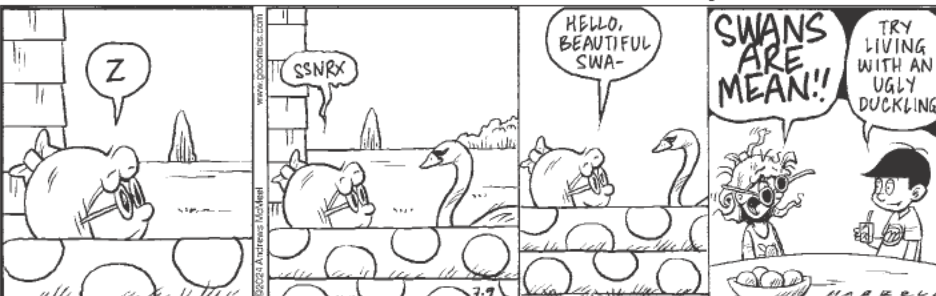
FOR INSTANCE, INSTEAD OF **TWO** TWINS, MAYBE THIS HOUSE ONLY NEEDS ONE!

I'M SORRY I THOUGHT YOUR HORSE WAS A CAMEL.

IT'S A CAT!

Adam@Home

By Rob Harrell



Z

SSNRX

HELLO, BEAUTIFUL SWA-

SWANS ARE MEAN!!

TRY LIVING WITH AN UGLY DUCKLING.

HEY, BUDDY. BACK AGAIN?

SORRY. CAN'T LET YOU IN. GO FIND A NUT OR SOMETHING.

ALREADY FOUND ONE, BIG GUY.

MY DOG'S NUCLEAR COFFEE HALUCINATIONS ARE GETTING SASSY.

MAYBE EIGHT CUPS TO MORROW.

Absolute REAL ESTATE AUCTION

Saturday, July 13th, 2024 @ 10:00 am

4215 CHESTNUT GLADE ROAD • SOUTH FULTON, TN 38257
AND 1164 STATE LINE ROAD • SOUTH FULTON, TN 38257

PUBLIC PREVIEW DATE:
Tues., July 2nd
from 4-5 pm

The Perry Estate

2 HOMES
162.37
ACRES
in 10 Tracts & Combinations
135+
TILLABLE ACRES

Excellent Building Tracts

TRACT 1 - 4215 CHESTNUT GLADE ROAD, SOUTH FULTON, TN: Experience the elegance of a custom-built, 5 bedroom, 3.5 bathroom brick home nestled on 2.72 acres in South Fulton, Tennessee, constructed in 2015 by Mr. & Mrs. Perry. Step inside to discover beautiful hand-scraped wood floors and a spacious living area seamlessly connected to the chef's dream kitchen, featuring granite countertops, white cabinets, and Samsung appliances. The main floor boasts a study with wall-to-wall built-ins, a grand living room with tall ceilings and a stone fireplace, and a primary suite with a private door to the covered back porch. Upstairs, find a guest suite, three additional bedrooms, and a versatile fifth bedroom. Modern conveniences include a Navien tankless water heater, a whole-house vacuum system, and whole house generator, while outdoor spaces include covered front and back porches to enjoy serene sunsets and sunrises.

TRACT 7 - 1164 STATE LINE ROAD, SOUTH FULTON, TN: Discover this charming farmhouse nestled on 2.22 acres of serene countryside in South Fulton, Tennessee, boasting a spacious covered front porch ideal for morning coffees or evening relaxation. Key features include a convenient downstairs primary bedroom, three bright upstairs bedrooms with updated vinyl windows, a functional bathroom, elegant glass pane doors, and a detached 2-car garage offering ample space for vehicles or a workshop. While retaining its historic charm, the farmhouse presents an opportunity for personalization and renovation to transform it into your dream home.

TRACT 7 - 4 Bdrm. Farmhouse

AUCTION HELD ON TRACT 1:
4215 Chestnut Glade Rd.
South Fulton, TN

- **WK&T FIBER INTERNET**
- **NATURAL GAS**

Real Estate Tracts

Tract 1	Stately 5 Bedroom Brick Home on 2.72 Acres
Tract 2	11.89 Acres
Tract 3	7.77 Acres
Tract 4	5.99 Acres
Tract 5	8.16 Acres
Tract 6	2.94 Acres
Tract 7	4 Bedroom Farmhouse on 2.22 Acres
Tract 8	44' x 72' Post Frame Equipment Shed on 5.07 Acres *** Swing Tract
Tract 9	32.72 Acres
Tract 10	82.89 Acres

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VEHICLES: 1999 Ford F350 Centurian - 4 door - 1 Ton Dually V8 - 4X4- Diesel Engine - Miles: 331,815 - VIN: 1FTWW33F6XEB29240, 1995 Chevy Lumina LS - 4D - Miles: 210,020 - VIN: 2G1WN52M2S9278313

OUTDOOR ITEMS: 200+/- T-Posts, 4 - Wheel Rubber Tire Wagon W/ Horse Drawn Attachment, Ratchet Straps, Cattle Wormer, Post Hole Digger, Rolls Of Weed Control Fabric, Gas Cans, Garden Seeder, 2 HP Air Compressor, Metal Wheelbarrow, Plastic Truper

Wheelbarrow, Snapper Push Mower, Miscellaneous Hand Tools And Yard Tools, Tool Boxes, Planters, Yard Ornaments, Large Extension Ladder, Antique Auger / Scrap Metal, Watering Troughs, Mongoose Adult Bicycle, 3 Pt Hitch Carry All

FURNITURE: Green Upholstered Manual Recliner, Printed Upholstery Manual Recliner, Red Leather Remote Recliner, Image Quest Console Treadmill, Foot Stool, Multiple Antique Chests, Wooden Church Pew, Coffee Table, Bed Side Tables, Dining Table and 6 Chairs, Wicker / Woven Outdoor Chairs, Sofa And Foot Rests, Wooden Console Table, King Size Bed Frame With Matching Dresser, Rattan Wall Table w/Floral Design, Iron Bench, Antique

Marble Top Table, Antique Metal Floor Lamp, 9 Drawer Dresser w/Mirror, Wooden Desk And Matching Chair, Folding Card Table Chairs.

HOUSEHOLDS: Wall Décor, Large Wall Clock, Assortment Of Books, Assortment of DVDs, Tabletop Lamps, Decorative Room Divider, Table Top Décor, 2 - 40" Samsung TVs, Decorative Plates And Trays, Kitchen Canisters, Glass Pitcher, Green Vase w/Floral Stems, Multiple Cast Iron Skillet, Cast Iron Cornbread Mold, Vintage Tin Lambda Semi Truck Toy, Vintage Cast Iron Stove, Vintage Playskool Toy, Oil Lamps, Fishing Poles, Air Compressor, Vinyl Records, Granite Canister, Butter Churner.

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Appendix B

Public Comments



The lifting power of many wings can achieve twice the distance of flying alone.

Mr. Stephen Smith
Deputy Commissioner of TennCare
Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration
310 Great Circle Road
Nashville, TN 37243

Deputy Commissioner Stephen Smith,

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on Amendment 6 to the TennCare III Demonstration. The Tennessee Disability Coalition is an alliance of organizations and individuals who have joined to promote the full and equal participation of Tennesseans with disabilities in all aspects of life. We work together to advocate for public policy that ensures self-determination, independence, empowerment, and inclusion for people with disabilities.

We are grateful for and enthusiastic about Amendment 6's proposal to establish a Work Incentives Group to expand Medicaid eligibility in the state of Tennessee. For decades, people with disabilities who haven't needed the types and intensity of supports and services that only a state Medicaid agency could provide were shackled to near-poverty in order to obtain them. This amendment, and the proposed eligibility expansions, opens a brand new horizon for Tennesseans with disabilities to go to work, support their families and save for their futures without jeopardizing their access to necessary care.

First and foremost, we believe that the proposed amendment adequately matches the legislative intent and spirit of the law passed by the Tennessee General Assembly. We are grateful for this fact, and applaud the state and TennCare for developing this thoughtful and greatly impactful amendment.

We appreciate the amendment's focus on the separation between enrollment targets in the Work Incentives Group and those in CHOICES and ECF CHOICES. It is important that the establishment of this enrollment group does not negatively impact the capacity of the state to enroll and serve Tennesseans in traditional Medicaid programs in any way. Further, it is our hope that the state will continue to support individuals with disabilities in a person-centered planning process that permits them to enroll in an eligibility group that best suits their needs, preferences and goals.

In the course of our research, we have found that enrollees in programs similar to that proposed here, through cost-sharing premiums and private primary insurance, require lesser financial support from the state for services when compared to those enrolled in traditional Medicaid groups. Further, we have found that a large portion of potential enrollees in a Work Incentives Group are likely to transition from traditional Medicaid groups, which are groups that often present a larger cost to the state. It is our hope that any enrollment cap does not dissuade or prevent individuals with disabilities from considering and enrolling in the Work Incentives Group, given the advantages of the program for Tennesseans with disabilities and the potential

Deputy Commissioner Stephen Smith
8 August 2024

savings to the state. Likewise, we believe that the generous and substantial appropriation for the creation and implementation of this eligibility group from the General Assembly should support a similarly generous enrollment target and cap.

In the name of transparency, we also request that TennCare track and report to the General Assembly the enrollment numbers, enrollment targets and actual expenditures for enrollees in the Work Incentives Group. Likewise, we believe that it is important that TennCare consider publishing the same data on a publicly-facing report on an easily accessible website.

Thank you for proposing this amendment and thank you for the opportunity to comment on these proposed changes. We look forward to the rollout of this program and to seeing the great impact it will have for the Tennessee disability community.

Sincerely,

Jeff Strand
Director of Public Policy
Tennessee Disability Coalition

Amendment 6

Work Incentives Group for Persons with Disabilities

These comments are submitted by the Tennessee Association for Home Care (TAHC).

We are proud to see Tennessee seek to join the company of the states that already have a Medicaid buy-in program. Tennesseans should not have to choose between employment and health care coverage. We interpret the proposal to be a reasonable and representative of the general model of most buy-in programs.

TAHC also supports the companion change to CHOICES currently proposed in Amendment 6 which would extend CHOICES Group 2 and Group 3 to individuals age 18 and older. We believe that more Tennesseans need services and we applaud efforts to expand services, particularly innovations like this one: 1) that expand services to individuals in ways that allow them to maintain or pursue employment, and 2) that attempt to maintain budget neutrality.

We are aware, however, that there is some concern that there may not be sufficient capacity within the existing CHOICES program to properly serve the existing need of the CHOICES program (i.e., those without earnings/21+). TennCare has reported that there is no waitlist for the CHOICES program, yet at times, members may be waiting from approval of services to initiation of services for a period of more than thirty (30) days. It is our understanding that eliminating and/or reducing that wait time is a priority for TennCare and the MCOs.

We do have some concern that adding additional members might exacerbate this purported problem, thus we urge TennCare to identify some performance indicator that might alert TennCare and/or the MCOs of the need to focus on increasing capacity. For example, if, as enrollment for this program increases, so too do the wait times for the initiation of services, TennCare should consider taking action to increase the number of CHOICES providers and/or staff. To our knowledge, the most effective experiment TennCare has undertaken to increase provider capacity is increasing reimbursement rates for the program.



155 Lafayette St., Nashville, TN 37210
Mailing: P.O. Box 100187, Nashville, TN 37224
Phone: (615)-255-0331 Fax: (615) 255-0354
website: www.tnjustice.org

August 9, 2024

Via Electronic Transmission

Stephen Smith
Deputy Commissioner
Division of TennCare
310 Great Circle Road
Nashville, TN 37243

Re: TennCare III Demonstration Amendment 6, Work Incentives Group for Persons with Disabilities

Dear Deputy Commissioner Smith:

The Tennessee Justice Center (TJC) is a non-profit law firm and advocacy organization that works to ensure access to basic needs for all Tennesseans. Among other things, we help our clients navigate Medicaid and Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) programs. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Tennessee Department of Finance & Administration's ("the Department") proposed amendment to the TennCare III Demonstration to create a Work Incentives Group for people with disabilities, known as "Amendment 6." On behalf of the Tennessee Justice Center and the TennCare enrollees whom TJC serves, we submit these comments in support of Amendment 6.

Work Incentives Group

Amendment 6 proposes to extend TennCare coverage to additional working individuals with disabilities, with the objective of removing barriers to employment for those whose income and resources prevented them from qualifying for TennCare coverage. Enrollees in this group will be required to pay a monthly premium. This group is modeled on the Work Incentives Group described in Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII) of the Social Security Act and is expected to increase TennCare enrollment by approximately 700 people.

Under the current TennCare Demonstration, individuals with disabilities are primarily placed in one of two managed long-term services and supports (MLTSS) programs: CHOICES is TennCare's program for seniors and for adults with physical disabilities, and Employment and Community First CHOICES (ECF CHOICES) is TennCare's MLTSS program for persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

Eligibility

Amendment 6 imposes eligibility requirements for the Work Incentives Group. Individuals must (1) be 18 years of age or older (there will be no maximum age); (2) meet the level of care criteria for TennCare's existing programs for persons with disabilities (i.e., CHOICES or ECF CHOICES); and (3) have earned income, (there will be no maximum income or resource standard). Individuals must also meet general Medicaid eligibility requirements, including residence and citizenship.

TJC supports the eligibility requirements for the Work Incentives Group, which will allow for the enrollment of individuals with disabilities who would otherwise be eligible for CHOICES, but do not qualify because they are under 21. Eliminating an income and resource limit will benefit individuals with disabilities who wish to pursue or advance their employment but have concerns about losing TennCare coverage because of an increase in income.

In recognition of the program's intent to encourage disabled Tennesseans to pursue gainful employment, TJC recommends that enrollees in the DAC and Pickle Passalong categories also have the option to enroll in the Work Incentives Group, which will allow them to pursue employment and responsibly save for their future without loss of benefits due to work income related increase in resources.

Enrollment and Benefits

Amendment 6 proposes to enroll individuals who qualify for the Work Incentives Group in the TennCare Select plan and administer benefits through managed care organizations (MCOs). Enrollees in the Work Incentives Group may, but are not required to, receive CHOICES HCBS or ECF CHOICES HCBS, to the extent that they qualify based on their level of care needs. However, individuals in the Work Incentives Group receiving HCBS will be tracked and reported separately and will not count against the current enrollment targets established for CHOICES or ECF CHOICES.

TJC supports the proposed enrollment and benefits structure that allows enrollees in the Work Incentives Group to utilize HCBS if needed without imposing a requirement as a condition of HCBS enrollment, and that separates enrollment tracking between ECF CHOICES, CHOICES, and the Work Incentives Group.

Premiums and Termination

Amendment 6 proposes a monthly premium payment by individuals enrolled in the Work Incentive Group. The premiums will be equivalent to 5 percent of countable income, including both earned and unearned income, and will be calculated using only the income of the enrolled individual and not that of other household members. Individuals facing termination from this group due to non-payment of premiums will be entitled to all applicable notice and fair hearing rights.

TJC supports TennCare's commitment to upholding due process by granting individuals facing termination notice and fair hearing rights.

To achieve efficient administration of premiums, which can be operationally burdensome on the agency and enrollees, TJC encourages TennCare to conduct periodic evaluations of the cost effectiveness of administering monthly premiums and release its findings. We also recommend that TennCare publicize its process for calculating monthly premium amounts for individuals whose employment income varies by hours worked per month or seasonally.

Cost Sharing

Amendment 6 proposes TennCare's standard cost sharing structure, which would impose no copays for adults who meet the state's level of care criteria for nursing facility care, and nominal copays, consisting of \$3 for brand name drugs and \$1.50 for generic drugs, for adults who do not meet this level of care criteria.

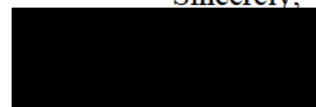
TJC supports TennCare's maintenance of the standard cost-sharing structure. We believe this avoids imposing financial burdens to individuals with disabilities.

Transition to other TennCare Programs

Amendment 6 proposes to exclude resources gained while an individual is enrolled in the Work Incentives Group when determining the individual's subsequent eligibility for other categories of TennCare coverage, as long as the resources are accumulated in a separate account.

TJC strongly supports the proposal to exclude resources from earnings accumulated while enrolled in the Work Incentives Program. TJC encourages TennCare to clarify how non-liquid resources purchased with earned income while enrolled in the Work Incentives Group would be considered when determining eligibility for other categories of TennCare coverage.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Jane Dimnwaobi.

JANE DIMNWAOBI
Tennessee Justice Center
Equal Justice Works Fellow

From: Lauren J. Percy
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2024 3:42 PM
To: PUBLICE.NOTICE TENNCARE
Subject: Comments on Amendment 6

To Whom it May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Amendment 6. On behalf of the TN Council on Developmental Disabilities, our recommendation is for TennCare to create an advisory group made up of advocates and stakeholders affected by the proposed change. For example, the citizens who advocated for the law prompting this proposal. The existing Katie Beckett Advisory is an example of this type of group.

An advisory is critical for successful design, implementation, and most importantly continued quality improvement through real feedback.

Thank you,
Lauren Percy, Executive Director



Lauren Percy | Executive Director
Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities
Davy Crockett Tower, First Floor
500 James Robertson Pkwy, Nashville, TN 37243
c. 615-739-0649
lauren.j.percy@tn.gov
www.tn.gov/cdd | [Facebook](#) | [Get Council news](#)

Need disability resources? Contact [TN Disability Pathfinder](#) (1-800-640-4636)

From: Kristen Otto [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 9, 2024 8:32 AM
To: PUBLICE.NOTICE TENNCARE
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Amendment 6 comment

Good Morning-

Please see below for a comment from TNCO's Regulatory Committee related to Amendment 6.

- We think the work incentives are a good thing. The caveat being more people eligible for CHOICES services is more people getting "approved" while waiting for agencies to find staff.
 - How will more people will get services when there are already so many "approved" and pending?

Thank you,
Kristen



Kristen Otto, LPN, MBA
Vice President of Professional Services
Phone 865-483-4385 **Direct** 865-813-0571
Web www.emoryvalleycenter.org
Email kristen.otto@evcmail.org
723 Emory Valley Road, Oak Ridge, TN
37830



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From: Jesi Judd <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, July 13, 2024 7:02 PM
To: PUBLICE.NOTICE TENNCARE
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Commentary

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Eligibility for single parents with children who qualify for tennicare or cover kids needs to be changed. The income limit doesn't factor in basic necessities that must be purchased, such as food, over the counter medicine, school supplies, clothing etc.

As a single parent who doesn't qualify for tennicare with a child who does, my health is greatly suffering. If I were to absolutely have no choice but to go to the hospital or clinic, the medical costs incurred would leave me unable to pay my mortgage, thus causing me to loose my home. The only state benefit received in my household is cover kids for my child. I have chronic health conditions that I cannot afford treatment for. I have been severely ill for the last 6 weeks and cannot have a medical exam due to medical costs. I cannot afford to build up enough unpaid medical bills to meet state insurance qualifications. My check would surely be garnished for non-payment before I met the extremely low income limit. Plans through [healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) are anything but affordable.

Overall, if someone meets all the criteria for TennCare (with the exception of income), then the income limits need not apply.

From: Jada Muhammad <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 10:41 AM
To: PUBLICE.NOTICE TENNCARE
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Changes to TennCare

I personally find it extremely intrusive and absolutely ludicrous to inquire about the most personal information of those who receive Healthcare benefits. I mean it's just down right unacceptable. The eligibility requirements as far as children and income being taken into account is one thing. However, with all if the fraud, and internet leaks, etc we shouldn't be required to give details that prudence suggests that we shouldn't share amongst those we love, let alone complete strangers. These newfound requirements need to be amended. I mean I'm just downright uncomfortable answering questions about my life insurance, bank account, etc. It's so disrespectful tbh.

From: Teresa Schneider [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 2:03 PM
To: PUBLIC.NOTICE TENNCARE
Subject: [EXTERNAL] TennCare

When one received this benefits does TennCare realize that it put MANY MANY citizens in a hardship !! My brother whom is on Disability and A very Tight budget (and caring for my Mom with Dementia) he is also a Diabetic that relies on his health care insurance for his insulin, doctor visits, diabetic shoes, etc (our father lost both legs knee down because of diabetes). My Brother does not qualify because that so called increase that was meant to help family now puts him less than 100 dollars over qualified income so your lovely bonus causes many Americans to lose their TennCare health. Doesn't it make sense if you increase cost of living to also raise income limits instead of now making citizens to not qualify people on fixed income barely get by. The state of Tennessee truly could use some important improvements when it comes to family in need !!

Social Security's annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) provides beneficiaries with a hedge against rising prices. That includes all beneficiaries — not just retirees and survivors but also people who receive disability payments.

From: jdamphier56 [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 1:20 PM
To: PUBLIC.NOTICE TENNCARE
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Waiver 1115 for the Disabled
Attachments: RFI_Chronic_Condition_SNP_Panel.pdf

***** This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. *****

Good afternoon,

How is this suppose to help disabled individuals on SSI or SSDI.

If I am not mistaken, the American citizens that have worked their entire life, paid into SSA and Medicare and are entitled to SSDI SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE and our tax dollars goes into a INSURANCE TRUST FUND which collects interest and hasn't even been used at. And for us to receive any assistance from Tennessee is impossible.

Now, you want the disabled citizens that already worked, go and work some more to pay Tennessee for what. You are already using my money not to benefit me but someone else. Tennessee doesn't even participate in programs like other states do. What have you done to help older individuals with a disability and their children that are born with a disability. You have done nothing for us. You have denied my family assistance since 2010. And now you want us to pay more for extra benefits because we make too much money on SSDI. I have a chronic condition, such as a Fractured Skull at age 4 years, SLE Lupus, Fibromyalgia, Rheumatoid Arthritis, COPD, Neuropathy, High Blood Pressure, Diabetes, Spinal Stenosis, Block Arteries and only 20% Blood Flow in my Legs. Not to mention low vision in my right eye due to a parasite eating away at my Cornea due to Contaminated Tap Water in East Tennessee. Both eyes have been affected and scared for life but the right eye is worse than the left. My son needed a handicap accessible vehicle for his electric vehicle so he can have a better quality of life. According to the IDEA he was entitled to get help according to the United States Dept of Education and the Special Ed Dept. Grants such as CAP and PAIR Grants were available to families in need and we were lied too by the TN Dept of Vocational and Rehabilitation Services. My son never received his Transition as stated in his IEP and Tennessee is still not following State and Federal Laws when it comes to my Dual Power of Attorney I have in place for him when he was a Minor. The State and TennCare are ignoring it. When is it going to end, when is the state of Tennessee going to help the American people that already paid for their entitlements. And who is going to be accountable, liable and take responsibility for what they have put us through for years and now I can lose my right leg and I've already lost my eyesight who's going to pay restitution for that and who's going to pay restitution for these low income housing providers that are receiving tax credits and doesn't want to renew someone's lease for no reason at all and put a disabled person like myself on the streets and leaves me paying the bill and living in a car for four or five months and nobody does anything about it and that's the reason why my health deteriorated because of TennCare and these providers that doesn't follow federal rules and regulations and the fair housing act. We are the victims and suffering and they're getting away with not following state and federal laws. And it keeps on happening when Medicare specifically says about individuals that have a chronic condition that would lead to death which I have several and I'm entitled to the extra help because I have a Medicare part A, B, C and D and am entitled to the Chronic Special Needs Program.

See attached PDF FILE from the CMS.

I would like some answers since this department is handling all the Federal Money that comes in to help the citizens in need. Thank you, and I look forward into hearing from you.

My best regards,

Jacqueline Damphier



Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Request for Information on Severe and Disabling Chronic Conditions and Enrollment in Medicare Advantage Chronic Condition Special Needs Plans (C-SNPs)

Summary: This request for information seeks input from the public on the review and updating of the list of special needs plan (SNP) specific chronic conditions by a panel of clinical advisors to be held during the fall of 2019.

Dates: To be assured consideration, comments must be received at the address provided below, no later than 5 p.m. on September 8, 2019.

Addresses: Comments must be submitted electronically. You may submit electronic comments on this RFI to daniel.lehman@cms.hhs.gov.

For further information contact: Daniel Lehman, (410) 786–8929.

I. Introduction

Chronic Condition Special Needs Plans (C-SNPs) are SNPs that restrict enrollment to special needs individuals with specific severe or disabling chronic conditions, defined at 42 CFR 422.2. CMS provides further guidance on severe or disabling chronic conditions through a list of SNP-specific chronic conditions in Chapter 16b, section 20.1.2 of the Medicare Managed Care Manual (MMCM).

These conditions were drawn from a panel of clinical advisors established pursuant to Section 164(e)(2) of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008. The panel was convened in October 2008 and recommended fifteen SNP-specific chronic conditions that met the definition of severe or disabling and needed specialized care management. The list was later incorporated into the MMCM.

More recently, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (BBA) amended the definition of “severe or disabling chronic condition” for purposes of identifying individuals eligible to enroll in C-SNPs beginning January 1, 2022; added care management requirements for special needs individuals who have a severe or disabling chronic condition; mandated the inclusion of several current C-SNP chronic conditions onto the new list; directed the Secretary to convene a panel of clinical advisors to establish and update a list of severe or disabling chronic conditions that meet certain criteria; and directed that the panel take into account the availability of benefits in the Medicare Advantage Value-Based Insurance Design model. Additional information on the BBA amendments relevant to C-SNPs can be found in Section II of the RFI. Section 1859(f)(9), as added by the BBA, instructs the Secretary to convene the panel of clinical advisors not later than December 31, 2020 and every 5 years thereafter.

This request for information is seeking public comment on the redefinition of severe and disabling chronic conditions as amended by the BBA; the current list of severe and disabling chronic conditions; whether those conditions could be further clarified; and if there are any potential conditions missing from the list. Comments will be used to inform the panel’s review and update of the current list of qualifying chronic conditions under Chapter 16b of the MMCM.

II. Background

Upon amendment by section 164(e)(1) of MIPPA and prior to the amendments made by the BBA of 2018, Section 1859(b)(6)(B)(iii) of the Act defined special needs individuals with severe or disabling chronic conditions as special needs individuals “who have one or more co-morbid and medically complex chronic conditions that are substantially disabling or life threatening; have a high risk of hospitalization or other significant adverse health outcomes; and require specialized delivery systems across domains of care.” This definition is also codified in regulation at 42 C.F.R. § 422.2. After enactment of MIPPA, CMS solicited public comments on chronic conditions meeting this definition and convened the SNP Chronic Condition Panel in the fall of 2008.

After discussing public comments on a proposed list of SNP-specific chronic conditions and conducting their own thorough review, the panelists recommended, and CMS subsequently incorporated, a list of 15 SNP-specific chronic conditions and associated diseases and disorders under each chronic condition category (where applicable) into the MMCM, Chapter 16b, section 20.1.2. That list is as follows:

1. Chronic alcohol and other drug dependence;
2. Autoimmune disorders, limited to: Polyarteritis nodosa, Polymyalgia rheumatica, Polymyositis, Rheumatoid arthritis, and Systemic lupus erythematosus;
3. Cancer, excluding pre-cancer conditions or in-situ status;
4. Cardiovascular disorders, limited to: Cardiac arrhythmias, Coronary artery disease, Peripheral vascular disease, and Chronic venous thromboembolic disorder;
5. Chronic heart failure;
6. Dementia;
7. Diabetes mellitus;
8. End-stage liver disease;
9. End-stage renal disease (ESRD) requiring dialysis;
10. Severe hematologic disorders, limited to: Aplastic anemia, Hemophilia, Immune thrombocytopenic purpura, Myelodysplastic syndrome, Sickle-cell disease (excluding sickle-cell trait), and Chronic venous thromboembolic disorder;
11. HIV/AIDS;
12. Chronic lung disorders, limited to: Asthma, Chronic bronchitis, Emphysema, Pulmonary fibrosis, and Pulmonary hypertension; **COPD**
13. Chronic and disabling mental health conditions, limited to: Bipolar disorders, Major depressive disorders, Paranoid disorder, Schizophrenia, and Schizoaffective disorder;
14. Neurologic disorders, limited to: Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Epilepsy, Extensive paralysis (i.e., hemiplegia, quadriplegia, paraplegia, monoplegia), Huntington’s disease, Multiple sclerosis, Parkinson’s disease, Polyneuropathy, Spinal stenosis, and Stroke-related neurologic deficit; and
15. Stroke.

I have Lupus, a good possibility kidney failure can occur if not treated properly by a specialist.

In 2018, the BBA amended the definition of special needs individuals qualifying for a chronic condition special needs plan in Section 1859(b)(6)(B)(iii) of the Act. Beginning January 1, 2022, a C-SNP eligible individual must “have one or more comorbid and medically complex chronic conditions that is life threatening or significantly limits overall health or function, have a high risk of hospitalization or other adverse health outcomes, and require intensive care coordination and that is listed under subsection (f)(9)(A).” Subsection (f)(9)(A) requires severe or disabling chronic conditions to meet the following criteria:

1. The condition meets the definition of a severe or disabling chronic condition under section 1859(b)(6)(B)(iii) of the Act on or after January 1, 2022; and
2. Conditions that require prescription drugs, providers, and models of care that are unique to the special needs individuals with several or disabling chronic conditions (as defined in subsection (b)(6)(B)(iii) as of that date) and -
 - (a) as a result of access to, and enrollment in, a C-SNP, these special needs individuals would have a reasonable expectation of slowing or halting the progression of the disease, improving health outcomes and decreasing overall costs for individuals diagnosed with such condition compared to available options of care other than through a C-SNP, or
 - (b) have a low prevalence in the general population of Medicare beneficiaries or a disproportionally high per-beneficiary cost under Medicare.

In addition, the statute requires the list of severe or disabling chronic conditions to include HIV/AIDS, end stage renal disease, and chronic and disabling mental illness. The statute also requires the advisory panel, in establishing and updating the list of severe and disabling chronic conditions, to take into account the availability of varied benefits, cost-sharing, and supplemental benefits under the Medicare Advantage Value-Based Insurance Design model.

Given the legislative mandate provided by the BBA, CMS will convene a panel of clinical advisors in the fall of 2019 tasked with reviewing and updating the current list of chronic conditions to meet the new statutory requirements for the list of severe or disabling chronic conditions. As noted earlier, CMS is interested in stakeholder feedback regarding the current list of severe and disabling chronic conditions, whether those conditions could be further clarified, and if there are any potential conditions missing from the current list that meet the new statutory criteria.

III. Request for Information

We are requesting public input on the following areas:

1. Does the current list of chronic conditions as noted in Medicare Managed Care Manual adequately cover all conditions that could be reasonably considered as severe or disabling under the new definition? Are there other conditions that the panel should consider?
2. Should the panel further clarify and/or revise the set of diseases and disorders that accompany the current list of chronic conditions?

3. CMS currently allows MA organizations to offer multi-condition C-SNPs. See MMCM, Chapter 16b, sections 20.1.3.1 – CMS-Approved Group of Commonly Co-Morbid and Clinically-Linked Conditions and 20.1.3.2 – MAO-Customized Group of Multiple Chronic Conditions. Does the current list of chronic conditions listed in the MMCM as commonly co-morbid and clinically-linked conditions adequately identify groupings of co-morbid and clinically-linked conditions that CMS should approve for multi-condition C-SNPs?
4. MAOs may develop their own multi-condition C-SNPs that use groupings of the severe or disabling chronic conditions identified in the MMCM for C-SNPs. To be eligible for such a multi-condition C-SNPs, enrollees must have all of the qualifying commonly co-morbid and clinically linked chronic conditions in the MAO's specific combination. To date, MA organizations have underutilized this type of multi-condition C-SNP. CMS is seeking comment on multi-condition C-SNPs that are designed by MAOs as opposed to using specific groupings identified by CMS. Specifically, what are the benefits of keeping this option versus the risks to removing it?

IV. Collection of Information Requirements

This document does not impose information collection requirements, that is, reporting, recordkeeping or third-party disclosure requirements. However, section III of this document does contain a general solicitation of comments in the form of a request for information. In accordance with the implementing regulations of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), specifically 5 CFR 1320.3(h)(4), this general solicitation is exempt from the PRA. Facts or opinions submitted in response to general solicitations of comments from the public, published in the Federal Register or other publications, regardless of the form or format thereof, provided that no person is required to supply specific information pertaining to the commenter, other than that necessary for self-identification, as a condition of the agency's full consideration, are not generally considered information are not therefore not subject to the PRA.

We note that this is a RFI only. This RFI is issued solely for information and planning purposes; it does not constitute a Request for Proposal (RFP), applications, proposal abstracts, or quotations. This RFI does not commit the U.S. Government to contract for any supplies or services or make a grant award. Further, we are not seeking proposals through this RFI and will not accept unsolicited proposals. Responders are advised that the U.S. Government will not pay for any information or administrative costs incurred in response to this RFI; all costs associated with responding to this RFI will be solely at the interested party's expense. We note that not responding to this RFI does not preclude participation in any future procurement, if conducted. It is the responsibility of the potential responders to monitor this RFI announcement for additional information pertaining to this request. In addition, we note that CMS will not respond to questions about the policy issues raised in this RFI.

We will actively consider all input as we develop future regulatory proposals or future subregulatory policy guidance. We may or may not choose to contact individual responders. Such communications would be for the sole purpose of clarifying statements in the

responders' written responses. Contractor support personnel may be used to review responses to this RFI. Responses to this notice are not offers and cannot be accepted by the Government to form a binding contract or issue a grant. Information obtained as a result of this RFI may be used by the Government for program planning on a non-attribution basis. Respondents should not include any information that might be considered proprietary or confidential. This RFI should not be construed as a commitment or authorization to incur cost for which reimbursement would be required or sought. All submissions become U.S. Government property and will not be returned. In addition, we may publically post the public comments received, or a summary of those public comments.

V. Response to Comments

Because of the large number of public comments we normally receive on RFI documents, we are not able to acknowledge or respond to them individually. We will consider all comments we receive by the date and time specified in the "Dates" section of this preamble, and, if we proceed with a subsequent document, we may respond to the comments in a subsequent document.