

## **Table of Contents**

**State/Territory Name: Rhode Island**

**State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 25-0011**

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) Form CMS 179
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
601 E. 12th St., Room 355  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

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December 8, 2025

Richard Charest, R.Ph, MBA, Secretary  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
3 West Road, Virks Building  
Cranston, RI 02920

Re: Rhode Island State Plan Amendment (SPA) - 25-0011

Dear Secretary Charest:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed your Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number (TN) 25-0011. This amendment proposes to provide additional clarity regarding billing practices for Community Health Workers, as well as to outline service limitations to ensure alignment with program goals.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in Title XIX of the Social Security Act and implementing regulations Section 1905 (a)(13)(C) of the Social Security Act. This letter informs you that Rhode Island's Medicaid SPA TN 25-0011 was approved on December 8, 2025, effective May 19, 2025.

Enclosed are copies of Form CMS-179 and approved SPA pages to be incorporated into the Rhode Island State Plan.

If you have any questions, please contact Joyce Butterworth at (617) 531-7573 or via email at [Joyce.Butterworth@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Joyce.Butterworth@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Wendy E. Hill Petras.

Wendy E. Hill Petras, Acting Director  
Division of Program Operations

Enclosures

cc: Kristin Sousa, Interim Medicaid Program Director  
Kathryn Thomas, Senior Economic and Policy Analyst

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF  
STATE PLAN MATERIAL  
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER

2 5 — 0 0 1 1

2. STATE

RI

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE OF THE SOCIAL  
SECURITY ACT



XIX



XXI

TO: CENTER DIRECTOR  
CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

May 19, 2025

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION

Social Security Act, Section 1905 (a)(13)(C)

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)

a. FFY 2025

\$ (289,554)

b. FFY 2026

\$ (772,089)

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

Attachment 3.1-A Supplement to page 6, pages 6.12, 6.13  
Attachment 4.19-B page 13.C.1

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION  
OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)

Attachment 3.1-A Supplement to page 6, pages 6.12, 6.13  
(TN# 21-0012)  
Attachment 4.19-B page 3E (TN# 21-0012)

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

Community Health Workers

10. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT



COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED



NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL



OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:

11. SIGNATURE OF OFFICIAL

12. TYPE & NAME  
Richard Carest

13. TITLE  
Secretary, EOHHS

14. DATE SUBMITTED  
6/30/25

15. RETURN TO

EOHHS  
3 West Road  
Cranston, RI 02920

**FOR CMS USE ONLY**

16. DATE RECEIVED  
June 30, 2025

17. DATE APPROVED  
December 8, 2025

**PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED**

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL  
May 19, 2025

19.

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL  
Wendy E. Hill Petras

21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL  
Acting Director, Division of Program Operations

22. REMARKS

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

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### 13.C.1 Preventive Services

#### Community Health Worker Services:

##### Description of the services and each of the component services:

Community Health Worker (CHW) services is a preventive health service to prevent disease, disability, and other health conditions or their progression; to prolong life; and/or to promote physical and mental health and efficiency.

The following component services are covered when performed by CHWs within the scope of their practice:

- Health Promotion and Coaching for individual beneficiaries or groups of beneficiaries, includes activities to help beneficiaries understand or manage health risks related to a diagnosed condition, setting health goals and creating an action plan, and providing information and/or coaching.
- Health Education and Training for individual beneficiaries or groups of beneficiaries on standardized, evidence-based methods and measures that have been proven effective in preventing disease, disability, and other health conditions or their progression; prolonging life; and/or promoting physical and mental health and efficiency. Health Education and Training services provided by CHWs are covered when the CHW provides the education and/or training using pre-approved training materials.
- Health system navigation and resource coordination services for individual beneficiaries only, including helping to engage, re-engage, or ensure patient-led follow-up in primary care, routine preventive care, adherence to treatment plans, and/or self-management of chronic conditions including by assisting beneficiaries to access covered services and other relevant community resources.

CHW services do not involve diagnosis, clinical care or treatment, or counseling. CHW services must be medically necessary and prescribed or ordered by a licensed practitioner of the healing arts (LPHA) within the scope of their practice under State law. Orders by a LPHA must be reviewed for continued medical necessity and renewed at least every six (6) months.

##### Service Limitations

CHW services cannot be duplicative of any other Medicaid State Plan or waiver services provided to the beneficiary.

Services provided by a Community Health Worker are limited to two (2) hours in a twenty-four (24) hour period, not to exceed twelve (12) hours per calendar month per recipient without prior authorization. If medically necessary, prior authorization can be requested for additional services.

TN: 25-0011

Supersedes TN: 21-0012

Approved: December 8, 2025

Effective Date: May 19, 2025

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

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Provider Qualifications:

All newly enrolled CHWs must be certified by the Rhode Island Certification Board; Effective October 1, 2025, all currently enrolled CHWs must be certified by the Rhode Island Certification Board.

Certification by the Rhode Island Certification Board includes the following requirements:

- Completion of six months or 1,000 hours of paid or volunteer work experience within the last five years;
- Completion of 50 hours of supervised work;
- Completion of 70 hours of education; and
- Submission of a portfolio, which is a collection of personal and professional activities and achievements.

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

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**Community Health Worker Services Payment:**Payment methodology:

Service time billed must be for direct contact with a beneficiary, as medically necessary and as prescribed by a physician or licensed practitioner of the healing arts within their scope of authorized practice under State Law.

CHWs may not bill for time spent on travel, outreach, documentation, or activities not directly delivered to the beneficiary.

The bases of payment are:

1. 30-minute units of service for individuals or groups up to eight (8) people for Health Promotion and Coaching and Health Education and Training
2. 15-minute units of service for individuals for Health System Navigation and Resource Coordination

Rates and Rate Increases:

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers reimbursement. The agency's fee schedule rate was set as of May 19, 2025, and is effective for services provided on or after that date. The agency's established fee schedule rates are published on the agency's website at: <https://eohhs.ri.gov/providers-partners/fee-schedules>.