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State/Territory Name: Vermont

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 24-0025

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form
- 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

February 26, 2025

Monica Ogelby, Medicaid Director
Vermont Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive - Center Building
Waterbury, VT 05671

Re: Vermont State Plan Amendment (SPA) 24-0025

Dear Ms. Ogelby:

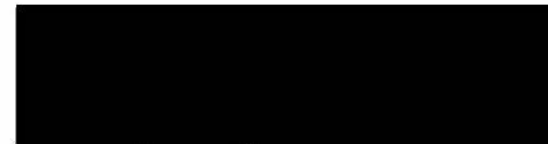
The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed your Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number (TN) 24-0025. This amendment proposes to add coverage for Post Permanency Supports Targeted Case Management for children whose families are formed through adoption and guardianship in Vermont.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in Title XIX of the Social Security and implementing regulations in accordance with 42 CFR 440.169. This letter informs you that Vermont's Medicaid SPA TN 24-0025 was approved on February 26, 2025, effective October 1, 2024.

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

If you have any questions, please contact Gilson DaSilva at (617) 565-1227 or via email at Gilson.DaSilva@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



James G. Scott, Director
Division of Program Operations

Enclosures

cc: Dylan Frazer, Deputy Director of Medicaid Policy

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

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER <u>2 4 — 0 0 2 5</u>	2. STATE <u>VT</u>
3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT <input checked="" type="radio"/> XIX <input type="radio"/> XXI	

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

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
10/1/2024

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION
42 CFR 440.169

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)
a. FFY 2025 \$ 0
b. FFY 2026 \$ 0

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT
Supplement 1 to Attachment 3.1-A pages 26 - 29

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (if Applicable)
None

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

Addition of Post Permanency Supports Targeted Case Management

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: Approval from Agency of Admin. 

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL


15. RETURN TO
DYLAN FRAZER
DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT HEALTH ACCESS
280 STATE DRIVE
WATERBURY, VT 05671-1010
DYLAN.FRAZER@VERMONT.GOV

12. TYPED NAME
Monica Ogeby

13. TITLE
MEDICAID DIRECTOR, AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES

14. DATE SUBMITTED
12/31/2024

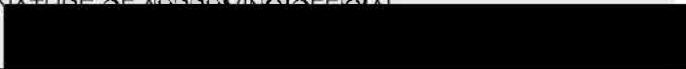
FOR CMS USE ONLY

16. DATE RECEIVED
12/31/2024

17. DATE APPROVED
02/26/2025

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL
10/01/2024

19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL


20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL
James G. Scott

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

22. REMARKS

State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act
State/Territory: VI

TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES
Post Permanency

Target Group (42 Code of Federal Regulations 441.18(a)(8)(i) and 441.18(a)(9)):
Individuals from birth through age 17 whose families are formed through adoption and guardianship in Vermont.

N/A Target group includes individuals transitioning to a community setting. Case-management services will be made available for up to N/A [insert a number; not to exceed 180] consecutive days of a covered stay in a medical institution. The target group does not include individuals between ages 22 and 64 who are served in Institutions for Mental Disease or individuals who are inmates of public institutions). (State Medicaid Directors Letter (SMDL), July 25, 2000)

Areas of State in which services will be provided (§1915(g)(1) of the Act):

- Entire State
 Only in the following geographic areas: [N/A]

Comparability of services (§§1902(a)(10)(B) and 1915(g)(1))

- Services are provided in accordance with §1902(a)(10)(B) of the Act.
 Services are not comparable in amount duration and scope (§1915(g)(1)).

Definition of services (42 CFR 440.169): Targeted case management services are defined as services furnished to assist individuals, eligible under the State Plan, in gaining access to needed medical, social, educational and other services. Targeted Case Management includes the following assistance:

- Comprehensive assessment and periodic reassessment of individual needs, to determine the need for any medical, educational, social or other services. These assessment activities include
 - taking client history;
 - identifying the individual's needs and completing related documentation; and
 - gathering information from other sources such as family members, medical providers, social workers, and educators (if necessary), to form a complete assessment of the eligible individual;Assessment is completed within 90 days of a family opening to services to assess their needs; and annually thereafter, to continuously inform the plan of care.
- ❖ Development (and periodic revision) of a specific care plan that is based on the information collected through the assessment that
 - specifies the goals and actions to address the medical, social, educational, and other services needed by the individual;
 - includes activities such as ensuring the active participation of the eligible individual, and working with the individual (or the individual's authorized health care decision maker) and others to develop those goals; and
 - identifies a course of action to respond to the assessed needs of the eligible individual;

State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act
State/Territory: VI

TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES
Post Permanency

- ❖ Referral and related activities (such as scheduling appointments for the individual) to help the eligible individual obtain needed services including
 - activities that help link the individual with medical, social, educational providers, or other programs and services that are capable of providing needed services to address identified needs and achieve goals specified in the care plan; and

- ❖ Monitoring and follow-up activities:
 - activities and contacts that are necessary to ensure the care plan is implemented and adequately addresses the eligible individual's needs, and which may be with the individual, family members, service providers, or other entities or individuals and conducted as frequently as necessary, and including at least one annual monitoring, to determine whether the following conditions are met:
 - services are being furnished in accordance with the individual's care plan;
 - services in the care plan are adequate; and
 - changes in the needs or status of the individual are reflected in the care plan. Monitoring and follow-up activities include making necessary adjustments in the care plan and service arrangements with providers. Individual Plans of Care for open cases are reviewed within 30 days of the first home visit and minimally every six months that the case remains open thereafter.

X Case management includes contacts with non-eligible individuals that are directly related to identifying the eligible individual's needs and care, for the purposes of helping the eligible individual access services; identifying needs and supports to assist the eligible individual in obtaining services; providing case managers with useful feedback, and alerting case managers to changes in the eligible individual's needs.
(42 CFR 440.169(e))

Qualifications of providers (42 CFR 441.18(a)(8)(v) and 42 CFR 441.18(b)):

Case managers in this instance are called Post Permanency Service Providers. Post Permanency Service Providers are community service organizations that employ staff with expertise in foster care services who receive enhanced training. These organizations must be able to deliver, and/or have agreements with other community organizations to ensure delivery of, needed services in the community. Case managers employed by these organizations will, at a minimum, have earned a bachelor's degree. Post Permanency Service Managers will hold a minimum Master of Social Work or Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor or a Bachelor's degree and 2 years in child welfare or mental health casework.

Freedom of choice (42 CFR 441.18(a)(1)):

The State assures that the provision of case management services will not restrict an individual's free choice of providers in violation of section 1902(a)(23) of the Act.

State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act
State/Territory: VI

TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES
Post Permanency

1. Eligible individuals will have free choice of any qualified Medicaid provider within the specified geographic area identified in this plan.
2. Eligible individuals will have free choice of any qualified Medicaid providers of other medical care under the plan.

Freedom of Choice Exception (§1915(g)(1) and 42 CFR 441.18(b)):

N/A Target group consists of eligible individuals with developmental disabilities or with chronic mental illness. Providers are limited to qualified Medicaid providers of case management services capable of ensuring that individuals with developmental disabilities or with chronic mental illness receive needed services: **[N/A]**

Access to Services (42 CFR 441.18(a)(2), 42 CFR 441.18(a)(3), 42 CFR 441.18(a)(6)):

The State assures the following:

- Case management (including targeted case management) services will not be used to restrict an individual's access to other services under the plan.
- Individuals will not be compelled to receive case management services, condition receipt of case management (or targeted case management) services on the receipt of other Medicaid services, or condition receipt of other Medicaid services on receipt of case management (or targeted case management) services; and
- Providers of case management services do not exercise the agency's authority to authorize or deny the provision of other services under the plan.

Payment (42 CFR 441.18(a)(4)):

Payment for case management or targeted case management services under the plan does not duplicate payments made to public agencies or private entities under other program authorities for this same purpose.

Case Records (42 CFR 441.18(a)(7)):

Providers maintain case records that document for all individuals receiving case management as follows: (i) The name of the individual; (ii) The dates of the case management services; (iii) The name of the provider agency (if relevant) and the person providing the case management service; (iv) The nature, content, units of the case management services received and whether goals specified in the care plan have been achieved; (v) Whether the individual has declined services in the care plan; (vi) The need for, and occurrences of, coordination with other case managers; (vii) A timeline for obtaining needed services; (viii) A timeline for reevaluation of the plan.

Limitations:

Case management does not include, and Federal Financial Participation (FFP) is not available in expenditures for, services defined in §440.169 when the case management activities are an integral and inseparable component of another covered Medicaid service (State Medicaid Manual (SMM) 4302.F).

State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act
State/Territory: VT

TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES
Post Permanency

Case management does not include, and Federal Financial Participation (FFP) is not available in expenditures for, services defined in §440.169 when the case management activities constitute the direct delivery of underlying medical, educational, social, or other services to which an eligible individual has been referred, including for foster care programs, services such as, but not limited to, the following: research gathering and completion of documentation required by the foster care program; assessing adoption placements; recruiting or interviewing potential foster care parents; serving legal papers; home investigations; providing transportation; administering foster care subsidies; making placement arrangements. (42 CFR 441.18(c))

FFP only is available for case management services or targeted case management services if there are no other third parties liable to pay for such services, including as reimbursement under a medical, social, educational, or other program except for case management that is included in an individualized education program or individualized family service plan consistent with §1903(c) of the Act. (§§1902(a)(25) and 1905(c))