

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-14-26  
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



**Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group**

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May 26, 2021

Dawn Stehle  
Director  
Arkansas Department of Human Services  
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S201  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437

Dear Ms. Stehle:

We are writing to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving Arkansas' request to amend the following 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver with the Emergency Preparedness and Response Appendix K in order to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic:

WAIVER TITLE	CMS AMENDMENT CONTROL NUMBER
Autism Waiver	AR.0936.R01.03

The amendment that the state has requested in the Appendix K is additive to those previously approved and is effective from March 12, 2020 to December 31, 2021; it applies in all locations served by the individual waivers for anyone impacted by COVID-19.

Please note the guidance issued in the December 22, 2020 State Health Official Letter ([SHO](#)); specifically, the requirement for advance notice of beneficiaries. When closing an Appendix K or ending an Appendix K flexibility prior to the end date of the Appendix K, the requirement for advance notice of beneficiaries applies. More details can be found on pages 11-12 of the SHO.

We have included the approved Appendix K pages with this correspondence. Please utilize the waiver management system for HCBS waivers for any further amendments to these waiver programs other than the Appendix K.

If you need assistance, feel free to contact Bernice Denbow of my staff at 410-767-6777 or by e-mail at [bernice.denbow@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:bernice.denbow@cms.hhs.gov) or Mary Marchioni at 303-844-7094 or by e-mail at [mary.marchioni@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:mary.marchioni@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

Alissa Mooney DeBoy  
Director, DEHPG

Enclosure