TAKE NOTICE that subject to the approval of the 2017 Appropriations Act, the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) intends to seek approval from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), for amendments to the New Jersey Medicaid (Title XIX) State Plan, and the Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP) in order to reflect that New Jersey Medicaid fee-for-service rates were updated with an effective date of July 1, 2016. The fee schedule is published on the Department’s fiscal agent’s website at https://www.njmmis.com under “rate and code information.”

The DMAHS budget accounts for routine, periodic adjustment of fees and the addition and/or deletion of procedure codes authorized by CMS to conform to Federal requirements. Inclusive of these rate adjustments, the DHS may raise specific rates for Medicaid State Plan Behavioral Health services for both the ABP and non-ABP population to more closely align with the cost of providing these services and existing market rates.

New Jersey also intends to seek amendments to expand the existing substance use disorder benefit currently available to the Expansion population to the Title 19 population and to require prior authorization for substance use disorder services in both the ABP and non-ABP population effective 7/1/16. Effective 7/1/16, New Jersey will change the manner in which Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) is reimbursed through Medicaid to allow billing of a weekly bundled rate. The estimated financial impact of the proposed amendments and rate adjustments is an additional investment of $127.8 million into Behavioral Health Services. The $127.8 million includes $107.8 million of federal funding and an investment of $20 million in state funds.

The ABP was established in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) when New Jersey expanded Medicaid effective January 1, 2014 to parents and caretaker relatives and childless adults with income up to and including 133% of the federal poverty level. The ACA requires the establishment of an Alternative Benefit package for the Medicaid Expansion populations. The ABP must
cover 10 Essential Health Benefits as described in section 1302(b) of the ACA and the State assures that there will be full access to EPSDT services for people under 21 years of age. A list of services can be found on the DHS website at the site listed below. This Notice is intended to satisfy the requirements of Federal law and regulations, specifically 42 C.F.R. 440.386, 42 CFR 447.205, and 42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(13). A copy of this Notice is available for public review at the Medical Assistance Customer Centers, County Welfare Agencies, and the Department’s website at: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/providers/grants/public/index.html.
Comments or inquiries must be submitted in writing within 30 days of the date of this notice to:

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