

LEGAL NOTICE
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

TAKE NOTICE the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS), in conjunction with Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care (DCF/CSOC) 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 in order to implement State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2018 Appropriations Act.

The DHS, in conjunction with DCF, intends to seek an amendment increasing the monthly rate for Care Management Organizations (CMOs) by \$225 to more closely align with the cost of providing these services by Care Management Organizations (CMOs). This increase was approved as part of the SFY 2018 Appropriations Act. CMOs provide care coordination, monitoring, assessment and advocacy utilizing a wraparound model for youth under 21. Data indicates that the demand for these more intense services has increased, leading to higher caseloads, impacting on staff retention and agency stability. The rate increase will allow for lower caseloads, amidst the increasing number of youth accessing services through the public mental health system, DCF/CSOC. Lower caseloads lead to greater investment towards intentional time for effective community planning that is individualized and representative of the needs of the youth, and helps families actualize plan of care that is sustainable. Attention to detail to leverage community options, advocacy with schools and courts to coordinate better care, requires research and time. Higher caseloads do not allow this level of time investment per youth, which is critical to reduced lengths of stay at all intensities of services. This is also critical to reduce utilization of high cost services.

In the State's budget, the Governor's office and legislature approved support of the rate increase for these critical services. Stakeholders stated that the current rates were insufficient to cover the cost of these services. As a result of stakeholder input, DCF has completed an assessment of the care management rate, looking at national studies to assist the State in determining the appropriate rate for youth with moderate and complex needs under the age of 21 requiring these services. State also procured

the services of a consultant to assure provider reimbursement is in line with economy, efficiency and quality of care to enable the provision of these services.

The estimated new state costs for SFY 2018 and SFY 2019 are projected to be \$7 million dollars annually. The total costs projected for SFY 2018 and SFY 2019 are projected to be \$32 million annually.

This Notice is intended to satisfy the requirements of Federal statutes and regulations, specifically 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:

Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services
Office of Legal & Regulatory Affairs
Attention: Margaret Rose
P.O. Box 712, Mail Code #26
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0712
Fax: 609-588-7343
E-mail: Margaret.Rose@dhs.state.nj.us