



# Maryland Register

**Issue Date: March April 9, 2021**

Volume 48 • Issue 8 • Pages 289—386

## IN THIS ISSUE

Governor  
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Pursuant to State Government Article, §7-206, Annotated Code of Maryland, this issue contains all previously unpublished documents required to be published, and filed on or before March 22, 2021 5 p.m.

Pursuant to State Government Article, §7-206, Annotated Code of Maryland, I hereby certify that this issue contains all documents required to be codified as of March 22, 2021.

Gail S. Klakring  
Acting Administrator, Division of State Documents  
Office of the Secretary of State



## Information About the Maryland Register and COMAR

### MARYLAND REGISTER

The Maryland Register is an official State publication published every other week throughout the year. A cumulative index is published quarterly.

The Maryland Register is the temporary supplement to the Code of Maryland Regulations. Any change to the text of regulations published in COMAR, whether by adoption, amendment, repeal, or emergency action, must first be published in the Register.

The following information is also published regularly in the Register:

- Governor's Executive Orders
- Attorney General's Opinions in full text
- Open Meetings Compliance Board Opinions in full text
- State Ethics Commission Opinions in full text
- Court Rules
- District Court Administrative Memoranda
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- Agency Hearing and Meeting Notices
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- Other documents considered to be in the public interest

### CITATION TO THE MARYLAND REGISTER

The Maryland Register is cited by volume, issue, page number, and date. Example:

- 19:8 Md. R. 815—817 (April 17, 1992) refers to Volume 19, Issue 8, pages 815—817 of the Maryland Register issued on April 17, 1992.

### CODE OF MARYLAND REGULATIONS (COMAR)

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### CITATION TO COMAR REGULATIONS

**Contact:** Anna Aycock (410) 706-3930

[21-08-10]

## ADVISORY COUNCIL TO THE MARYLAND EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM

**Subject:** Public Meeting

**Date and Time:** April 15, 2021, 12:30 — 2:30 p.m.

**Place:** Virtual meeting via Google Meet — please see details below.

**Add'l. Info:** This will be a virtual meeting. ASL interpreters will be available for this meeting.

Join with Google Meet: [meet.google.com/uqq-efmh-hfn](https://meet.google.com/uqq-efmh-hfn)

Join by Phone: +1 847-957-1867 (PIN: 333 926 970)

**Contact:** Tanya D Green (410) 767-6432

[21-08-03]

## MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**Subject:** Public Hearing

**Dates and Times:** May 11, 2021, 10 a.m. — 12 p.m., and May 27, 2021, 3 — 5 p.m.

**Place:** Via webinar — please see details below.

**Add'l. Info:** The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) is proposing to renew its §1115 demonstration waiver known as HealthChoice. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has authorized the Department's existing §1115 waiver through December 31, 2021. HealthChoice, first implemented in 1997 under the authority of §1115 of the Social Security Act, is Maryland's Statewide mandatory managed care program for Medicaid enrollees. Under HealthChoice, eligible families and individuals are required to enroll in a managed care organization (MCO) that has been approved by the Department. Each MCO is responsible for ensuring that HealthChoice enrollees have access to a network of medical providers that can meet their health needs. The Department intends to seek authorization to continue current pilots and programs permitted under the current §1115 waiver, as well to modify the Assistance in Community Integration Services Pilot and the Home Visiting Services Pilot. In addition the Department is seeking authorization for new programs, including but not limited to, the Expansion of IMD Services for Adults with Serious Mental Illness, the Maternal Opioid Misuse (MOM) Model, and the Emergency Triage, Treat and Transport (ET3) Model.

Per the terms of the §1115 HealthChoice demonstration renewal as required by 42 CFR §431.420(c), the Department must conduct a post-award forum within 6 months of implementing the demonstration and annually thereafter. The forum is intended to provide the public with the opportunity to offer meaningful comment on the progress of the demonstration. The 2021 post-award forum will be held jointly with the second §1115 demonstration waiver renewal hearing on May 27, 2021, at 3 p.m., via webinar. The webinar registration and call-in information are found below. Meeting materials will be posted on the following website as the meeting date approaches:

<https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/healthchoice/Pages/HealthChoice-Post-Award-Forum.aspx>.

The State's 30-day public comment period will open on May 3, 2021. Electronic copies of the draft waiver amendment application will be available on that date and may be downloaded from <https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/Pages/1115-HealthChoice-Waiver-Renewal.aspx>. Hard copies of the application may be obtained by calling (410) 767-5208. Interested parties may send written comments concerning the waiver amendment to Tricia Roddy, Office of Innovation, Research, and Development, Office of the Medicaid Director, Maryland Department of Health, 201 West Preston Street, Room 224, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 or via email to [mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov). The Department will accept comments from May 3, 2021, through June 4, 2021.

The following public hearings will discuss the content of the waiver amendment and solicit feedback and input from public stakeholders.

Virtual Webinar and Audio Conference #1: §1115 Waiver Demonstration Renewal Application

Tuesday, May 11, 2021; 10 a.m. — 12 p.m.

Maryland Department of Health

GoToWebinar Virtual Platform

To participate in the public hearing via webinar, please register via: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2810866705598972683>

Please note that if you desire to make a public comment, you will need to register via the link above. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing audio and visual information about joining the webinar.

Call-in number: (415) 655-0060

Access code: 610-004-077

The call-in number and access code presented above is for attendees who wish to join in listen-only mode.

Virtual Webinar and Audio Conference #2: §1115 Waiver Demonstration Renewal Application and HealthChoice Post Award Forum

Thursday, May 27, 2021; 3 — 5 p.m.

Maryland Department of Health

GoToWebinar Virtual Platform

To participate in the public hearing via webinar, please register via: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4831209426033221900>

Please note that if you desire to make a public comment, you will need to register via the link above. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing audio and visual information about joining the webinar.

Call-in number: 1 (562) 247-8321

Access code: 415-369-968

The call-in number and access code presented above is for attendees who wish to join in listen-only mode.

**Contact:** Tricia Roddy (410) 767-5208

[21-08-29]

## MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH/MEDICAID PHARMACY AND THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE

**Subject:** Public Meeting



# Maryland Register

**Issue Date: May 7, 2021**

Volume 48 • Issue 10 • Pages 387—412

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Pursuant to State Government Article, §7-206, Annotated Code of Maryland, this issue contains all previously unpublished documents required to be published, and filed on or before April 19, 2021 5 p.m.

Pursuant to State Government Article, §7-206, Annotated Code of Maryland, I hereby certify that this issue contains all documents required to be codified as of April 19, 2021.

Gail S. Klakring  
Acting Administrator, Division of State Documents  
Office of the Secretary of State



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### CITATION TO COMAR REGULATIONS

[21-10-11]

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH****Subject:** Public Hearing**Dates and Times:** May 27, 2021, 3 — 5 p.m.**Place:** Via webinar — please see details below.**Add'l. Info:** Public Notice — HealthChoice Proposed §1115 Waiver Renewal and Post-Award Forum

The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) is proposing to renew its §1115 demonstration waiver known as HealthChoice. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has authorized the Department's existing §1115 waiver through December 31, 2021. HealthChoice, first implemented in 1997 under the authority of §1115 of the Social Security Act, is Maryland's statewide mandatory managed care program for Medicaid enrollees. Under HealthChoice, eligible families and individuals are required to enroll in a managed care organization (MCO) that has been approved by the Department. Each MCO is responsible for ensuring that HealthChoice enrollees have access to a network of medical providers that can meet their health needs. The Department intends to seek authorization to continue current pilots and programs permitted under the current §1115 waiver, as well to modify the Assistance in Community Integration Services Pilot and the Home Visiting Services Pilot. In addition, the Department is seeking authorization for new programs, including but not limited to, the Expansion of Institution for Mental Disease (IMD) Services for Adults with Serious Mental Illness, the Maternal Opioid Misuse (MOM) Model, and the Emergency Triage, Treat and Transport (ET3) Model.

Per the terms of the §1115 HealthChoice demonstration renewal as required by 42 CFR 431.420(c), the Department must conduct a post-award forum within six months of implementing the demonstration and annually thereafter. The forum is intended to provide the public with the opportunity to offer meaningful comment on the progress of the demonstration. The 2021 post-award forum will be held jointly with the second §1115 demonstration waiver renewal hearing on May 27, 2021 at 3:00 pm, via webinar. The webinar registration and call-in information are found below. Meeting materials will be posted on the following website as the meeting date approaches:

<https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/healthchoice/Pages/HealthChoice-Post-Award-Forum.aspx>.

The State's 30-day public comment period began on May 3, 2021. Electronic copies of the draft waiver amendment application will be available on that date and may be downloaded from <https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/Pages/1115-HealthChoice-Waiver-Renewal.aspx>. Hard copies of the application may be obtained by calling (410) 767-5208. Interested parties may send written comments concerning the waiver amendment to Tricia Roddy, Office of Innovation, Research, and Development, Office of the Medicaid Director, Maryland Department of Health, 201 West Preston Street, Room 224, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 or via email to [mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov). The Department will accept comments now through June 4, 2021.

The following public hearings will discuss the content of the waiver amendment and solicit feedback and input from public stakeholders.

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Tuesday, May 11, 2021; 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Maryland Department of Health

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Thursday, May 27, 2021; 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Maryland Department of Health

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Call-in number: 1 (562) 247-8321

Access code: 415-369-968

The call-in number and access code presented above is for attendees who wish to join in listen-only mode.

**Contact:** Tricia Roddy (410) 767-5208

[21-10-20]

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH****Subject:** 1915(b)(4) for Home and Community-Based Options Waiver — Renewal Application

**Add'l. Info:** The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) will submit a 1915(b)(4) waiver application for its 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Options Waiver to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to renew the waiver for 5 additional years. The 1915(b)(4) relates to selective contracting and allows the MDH to limit the providers of case management for the Home and Community-Based Options Waiver to local Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) and agencies selected through a competitive solicitation.

A copy of the 1915(b)(4) waiver application for the Home and Community-Based Options Waiver will be available at <https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/waiverprograms/Pages/Home.aspx> on May 7, 2021.

Public comments can be emailed to [COWaiverRenewal2021@gmail.com](mailto:COWaiverRenewal2021@gmail.com) or mailed to the MDH, Office of Long Term Services and Supports, ATTN: 1915(b)(4) for Home and Community-Based Options Waiver Renewal Public Comment, 201 W. Preston Street, Room 120, Baltimore, MD 21201. Public comments can be submitted from May 7, 2021 through June 6, 2021.

**Contact:** Keshia Shaw (410) 767-1483



Claire Gregory -MDH- <claire.gregory@maryland.gov>

## NOTIFICATION: Public Comment Period Open-Maryland's §1115 HealthChoice Waiver Renewal Application

32 messages

Claire Gregory -MDH- <claire.gregory@maryland.gov>

Tue, May 4, 2021 at 5:52 PM

To: MDH HealthChoiceRenewal -MDH- <mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov>

Bcc: Debbie Ruppert -MDH- <debbie.ruppert@maryland.gov>, "Dennis R. Schrader -MDH-" <dennis.schrader@maryland.gov>, Dionne Washington -MDH- <dionne.washington@maryland.gov>, Stephen Kolbe -DoIT- <Stephen.Kolbe@maryland.gov>, Jennifer McLvaine -MDH- <jennifer.mclvaine1@maryland.gov>, "Lisa A. Burgess -MDH-" <lisa.a.burgess@maryland.gov>, Marlana Hutchinson -MDH- <marlana.hutchinson@maryland.gov>, "Monchel D. Pridget -MDH-" <monchel.pridget@maryland.gov>, Tricia Roddy -MDH- <tricia.rodgy@maryland.gov>, Alexander Shekhdar -MDH- <alexander.shekhdar@maryland.gov>, Athos Alexandrou -MDH- <athos.alexandrou@maryland.gov>, "Alyssa L. Brown -MDH-" <alyssa.brown@maryland.gov>, Adrienne Breidenstine @bhsbaltimore.org, aclindsay@childrensnational.org, officemanager@machc.com, Alice Middleton <amiddleton@hilltop.umbc.edu>, Alison Donley -MDH- <alison.donley@maryland.gov>, allison.lavender@astrazeneca.com, "Alphius A. Sesay -MDH-" <alphiusa.sesay@maryland.gov>, athomas@mhaonline.org, "Amy A. 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Good afternoon,

The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) is proposing to renew its §1115 demonstration waiver known as HealthChoice. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has authorized the Department's existing §1115 waiver through December 31, 2021. HealthChoice, first implemented in 1997 under the authority of §1115 of the Social Security Act, is Maryland's statewide mandatory managed care program for Medicaid enrollees. Under HealthChoice, eligible families and individuals are required to enroll in a managed care organization (MCO) that has been approved by the Department. Each MCO is responsible for ensuring that HealthChoice enrollees have access to a network of medical providers that can meet their health needs.

The State's public comment period begins on May 4, 2021 and ends June 4, 2021. A copy of the draft waiver amendment application and a summary document are available on the [1115 HealthChoice Waiver website](#).

Interested parties may send written comments concerning the waiver amendment to Tricia Roddy, Deputy Medicaid Director, Office of the Healthcare Financing, Maryland Department of Health, 201 West Preston Street, Room 224, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 or via email to [mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov).

Thank you,

--  
M. Claire Gregory, MPH  
Special Assistant, Innovation, Research, and Development  
Office of Health Care Financing  
Maryland Department of Health  
201 W. Preston St  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
P: 410.767.5814 E: [claire.gregory@maryland.gov](mailto:claire.gregory@maryland.gov)

**We encourage you to check our website and social media often for updates.**

For Medicaid-related Coronavirus updates, visit [mmcp.health.maryland.gov](http://mmcp.health.maryland.gov).  
For questions about the Coronavirus, visit [coronavirus.maryland.gov](http://coronavirus.maryland.gov).  
Follow us @MDHealthDept [facebook.com/MDHealthDept](https://www.facebook.com/MDHealthDept) and [twitter.com/MDHealthDept](https://twitter.com/MDHealthDept).

Maryland Department of Health is committed to customer service. Click [here](#) to take the Customer Satisfaction Survey.

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To: [claire.gregory@maryland.gov](mailto:claire.gregory@maryland.gov)

Tue, May 4, 2021 at 5:52 PM



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## Public Notice

### Maryland's Section 1115 HealthChoice Demonstration Waiver Renewal

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***The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) is providing public notice of its intent to submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) a written request to renew Maryland's section 1115 HealthChoice Demonstration Waiver and to hold public hearings to receive comments on the waiver renewal application.***

Maryland's HealthChoice Program, now in its twenty-fifth year, was implemented in 1997 following federal approval allowing the State to move its fee-for-service (FFS) enrollees into a managed care payment system. Under the statewide health care reform program, the State enrolls individuals eligible through the demonstration into a managed care organization (MCO) for comprehensive primary and acute care, or one of the demonstration's authorized health care programs. This current five-year waiver authority expires on December 31, 2021; the Department is seeking a renewal of the section 1115 waiver to continue the demonstration as well as implement new programs. This document is a summary of the draft application as of May 4, 2021, including a full table of requested waiver and expenditure authorities.

As of March 2021, the Department provides services to 1.5 million enrolled participants. Of those, 1.3 million are enrolled in the HealthChoice program, including children enrolled in the Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP). HealthChoice enrollees receive the same comprehensive benefits as those available to Maryland Medicaid enrollees through the FFS system.

The Department's goal through this renewal is to test and evaluate the effect of the demonstration on improving the health status of low-income Marylanders by:

- Improving access to health care for the Medicaid population;
- Improving the quality of health services delivered;
- Providing patient-focused, comprehensive, and coordinated care designed to meet healthcare needs by providing each member a single "medical home" through a primary care provider (PCP);
- Emphasizing health promotion and disease prevention by providing access to immunizations and other wellness services, such as regular prenatal care; and
- Expanding coverage to additional low-income Marylanders with resources generated through managed care efficiencies.

Subsequent to the 2016 waiver renewal application approval, the Department submitted and received approval for two waiver amendments requesting program modifications or extensions. The first amendment, approved in 2019, made the following changes to the demonstration:

- Pay for certain inpatient treatments for participants with a primary SUD diagnosis and secondary mental health diagnosis at Institutions for Mental Disease (IMDs)—an expansion of the demonstration's Residential Treatment Services for Individuals with SUD Program;
- Expand the annual cap of the Assistance in Community Integration Services (ACIS) Pilot program;
- Cover a limited adult dental benefit for dually-eligible participants who are 21 to 64 years of age;
- Cover the National Diabetes Prevention Program (National DPP) lifestyle change program services for eligible HealthChoice participants; and
- Transition the Family Planning program from the section 1115 demonstration waiver into a State Plan Amendment (SPA) for the same program with expanded eligibility requirements and services.

The second waiver amendment, approved in April 2020, allowed the Department to establish a Collaborative Care Model (CoCM) Pilot program intended to serve a limited number of HealthChoice beneficiaries by integrating physical and behavioral health services in primary care settings, beginning in July 2020.

The Department completes an annual evaluation for the HealthChoice program and makes this available to stakeholders. Since the beginning of this current waiver period in 2017, the Department has conducted five comprehensive evaluations of the program which include data from CY 2015 to CY 2019. These evaluations demonstrate the continued success of the program not only in improving access to health care services and providing quality care, but also in demonstrating savings over the time period.

## Maryland HealthChoice Program – Section 1115 Waiver Renewal Initiatives

As the Department works with its provider and payer community partners to transform the healthcare system, this waiver renewal proposal will focus on maintaining high quality, cost-effective services and pilot programs initiated in the last waiver renewal period. In addition, the Department will focus on alignment with statewide efforts and measures designed for and organized around achieving success on population health measures required by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) for Maryland’s Total Cost of Care Model. The table below summarizes programs for which the Department is requesting approval in this renewal application.

**Table 1. Summary of Changes**

Existing Program/Service: Continue As Is	Existing Program/Service Continue with Modification	New Program/Service
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adult Dental Pilot Program</li> <li>Breast and Cervical Cancer Program</li> <li>Collaborative Care Pilot Program</li> <li>HealthChoice Diabetes Prevention Program</li> <li>Hospital Presumptive Eligibility Process</li> <li>Increased Community Services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assistance in Community Integration Services Pilot</li> <li>Home Visiting Services Pilot</li> <li>Residential Treatment for Substance Use Disorder</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emergency Triage, Treat and Transport Model</li> <li>Expansion of Institutions of Mental Disease for Severe Mental Illness</li> <li>Maternal Opioid Misuse Model</li> </ul>

### Modifications to Existing Programs

- **Assistance in Community Integration Services (ACIS) Pilot (Eff. Date: July 1, 2017).** The Department seeks to expand the number of available places from 600 to 900. Through an open process, local governmental entities would apply to deliver ACIS services to a proposed number of individuals either as an expansion of a current ACIS pilot program, or under a new application. All other provisions of the program, including the local governmental entity provision of the non federal share of payment, would remain the same.
- **Evidence-Based Home Visiting Services (HVS) Pilot for High Risk Pregnant Women and Children (Eff. Date: July 1, 2017).** The Department seeks to expand the allowable time-frame of eligibility in the Healthy Families America (HFA) evidence-based home visiting model program from age two to age three. This change aligns with the current guidelines of the HFA model. All other provisions of the program, including the local governmental entity provision of the non federal share of payment, would remain the same.
- **Residential Treatment for Substance Use Disorder.** The Department seeks to modify its coverage of ASAM Level 4.0 to include not only providers located in Maryland, but also those based in contiguous states.



## New Programs

- **Expansion of Institutions of Mental Disease (IMD) Services for Adults with Serious Mental Illness (SMI).** The Department is requesting expenditure authority to cover Medicaid adults aged 21 to 64 that have an SMI diagnosis who are residing in a private IMD. The days authorized would be based on medical necessity and would be covered when delivered by facilities located within Maryland or a contiguous state.
- **Maternal Opioid Misuse (MOM) Model (Eff. Date: July 1, 2021).** Implemented in response to Maryland's opioid epidemic, the MOM Model is a pilot initiative designed to reduce the burden of neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) and its associated costs, and improve maternal health outcomes, by providing case management along with somatic and behavioral care to pregnant people diagnosed with an opioid use disorder (OUD). Initially established in St. Mary's county, the pilot will transition to becoming available statewide. In this submission, Maryland seeks funding for PMPM payments for participating MCOs to cover these services during pregnancy and the postpartum period.
- **Emergency Triage, Treat and Transport (ET3) Model.** ET3 is a voluntary, five-year payment model that provides greater flexibility to ambulance care teams to address emergency health care needs following a 911 call by allowing for payment for ground transports to alternative destinations such as urgent care providers in addition to the ED.

## Estimated Effect on Enrollment and Expenditures

The Department's proposed changes to the section 1115 waiver are not expected to have a material impact on Medicaid enrollment or associated expenditures. Please see Tables 2 and 3 for historic and current information.

**Table 2. Actual and Projected Member Months and Expenditures by Calendar Year (Prior Waiver Period)**

Prior Waiver Period					
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 (projected)
HealthChoice Enrollment in Member Months*	13,103,311	13,437,823	14,438,136	15,394,492	16,470,142
HealthChoice Expenditures	\$7,730,969,828	\$7,836,523,747	\$7,444,837,437	\$7,385,370,611	\$8,372,298,762

\* Inclusive of: TANF Adults 0-123; Medicaid Children; Medically Needy Adult; Medically Needy Children; SOBRA Adults; SSI/BD Adults; SSI/BD Children; New Adults.

**Table 3. Actual and Projected Member Months and Expenditures by Calendar Year (Current Waiver Period)**

Current Waiver Period					
	2022 (projected)	2023 (projected)	2024 (projected)	2025 (projected)	2026 (projected)
HealthChoice Enrollment in Member Months*	16,526,109	16,182,874	16,344,703	16,508,150	16,673,232
HealthChoice Expenditures	\$8,988,005,009	\$9,026,954,699	\$9,344,656,659	\$9,673,543,935	\$10,014,010,402

\* Inclusive of: TANF Adults 0-123; Medicaid Children; Medically Needy Adult; Medically Needy Children; SOBRA Adults; SSI/BD Adults; SSI/BD Children; New Adults.

The Department intends to build upon its existing approved evaluation design (from the 2017-2021 waiver period) for continuation programs and will develop an evaluation design for new programs in accordance with the demonstration's state goals and with CMS guidance and timelines.

## Waiver and Expenditure Authorities

Table 4 contains a list of the waiver and expenditure authorities requested as part of this waiver renewal.

**Table 4. Waiver and Expenditure Authorities**

Program/ Policy Name	Current Terms and Conditions	Proposed Changes
ACIS Pilot	Waiver to section 1902(a)(10)(B)—to enable the State to provide benefits specified in the special terms and conditions to Demonstration participants enrolled in the ACIS Pilot program which are not available to other individuals under the Medicaid State Plan.  Waiver to section 1902(a)(23)(A)	Modification to request additional spaces
Adult Dental Pilot Program	Provide coverage of dental benefits for fully dually eligible individuals ages 21 through 64.	Continue with no changes
Breast and Cervical Cancer Program	For continuity of care purposes those individuals who were enrolled and in an active treatment program prior to January 1, 2014, were grandfathered into the program and receive coverage under this demonstration effective January 1, 2014.	Continue with no changes
Collaborative Care Pilot Model (CoCM) Pilot Program	Implement a CoCM pilot program for a limited number of HealthChoice beneficiaries.	Continue with no changes
Dental Expansion for Former Foster Youth	Waiver to section 1902(a) (10) (B)— to enable the State to provide benefits specified in the special terms and conditions to Demonstration participants enrolled as former foster care youth which are not available to other individuals under the Medicaid State Plan.	Continue with no changes
Disenrollment Operations for Automatic Re-enrollment into the MCO	Provide an enrollee with the disenrollment rights required by sections 1903 (m)(2)(A)(vi) and 1932(a)(4) of the Act, when the enrollee is automatically re-enrolled into the enrollee's prior MCO after an eligibility lapse of no more than 120 days.  Send a written notice of action for a denial of payment [as specified in 42 CFR 438.400(b)(3)]	Continue with no changes

Program/ Policy Name	Current Terms and Conditions	Proposed Changes
	when the beneficiary has no liability, as required by sections 1903(m)(2)(A)(xi) and 1932(b)(4) of the Act and in regulations at 438.404(c)(2)	
Emergency Triage, Treat, and Transport Model (ET3)	N/A	New Program
Expansion of IMD for SMI	Currently limited to individuals with a dual diagnosis of SUD and MH condition. Maryland seeks to maintain and expand expenditure authority under section 1115(a)(2) of the Social Security Act to claim expenditures by the State for mental health in non-public IMDs— which are not otherwise included as expenditures under section 1903—and to have those expenditures regarded as expenditures under the State’s Title XIX plan.	Expansion would cover all individuals with an SMI diagnosis, not just those with dual SUD/MH diagnosis.
Family Planning Program	Women of childbearing age who have a family income at or below 250 percent of the FPL and who are not otherwise eligible for Medicaid, CHIP, or Medicare, but had Medicaid pregnancy coverage, will be eligible for the HealthChoice family planning program for 12 months immediately following the 2-month postpartum period.	Transitioned to a State Plan Amendment, no longer needed in section 1115 demonstration
Freedom of Choice Selection 1902(a)23(A)	<p>To enable the State to restrict freedom of choice of provider, other than for family planning services, for children with special needs, as identified in section 1932(a)(2)(A)(i-v) of the Act, who are participants in the Demonstration</p> <p>To enable the State to require that all populations participating in the Demonstration receive outpatient specialty mental health and substance use services from providers with the public behavioral health system.</p>	Continue with no changes
HealthChoice DPP	Provide National Diabetes Prevention Program (National DPP) services.	Continue with no changes
HVS Pilot	Provide evidence-based home visiting services by licensed practitioners to promote enhanced health outcomes, whole person care, and community-integration for high-risk pregnant women and children up to two (2) years old.	Modification to serve children up to three (3) years old.

Program/ Policy Name	Current Terms and Conditions	Proposed Changes
	<p>Waiver to section 1902(a)(10)(B)—to enable the State to provide benefits specified in the special terms and conditions to Demonstration participants determined to be a high-risk pregnant women who are not available to other individuals under the Medicaid State plan.</p> <p>Freedom of Choice section 1902(a)(23)(A) — to enable the State to restrict freedom of choice of provider</p>	
ICS	<p>Allow the program, previously approved for 100, to continue to be capped at 100 individuals.</p> <p>Waiver to section 1902(a)(10)</p>	Continue with no changes
Inpatient Benefit for Pregnant Women Eligible through Hospital Presumptive Eligibility	Waiver of 42 CFR 435.1103(a)—to permit the State to provide the entire State Plan benefit package to pregnant women found presumptively eligible.	Continue with no changes
MOM model	N/A	<p>Waiver to section 1902(a)(10)(B)—to enable the State to provide benefits specified in the special terms and conditions to Demonstration participants enrolled in the Maternal Opioid Misuse model which are not available to other individuals under the Medicaid State Plan.</p> <p>Waiver to section 1902(a)(1)—to enable the State to limit the provision of benefits specified in the special terms and conditions for the Maternal Opioid Misuse model to a sub-state area</p> <p>Expenditure authority under section 1115(a)(2) of the Social Security Act to claim expenditures by the State for Maternal Opioid Misuse model services— which are not otherwise included as expenditures under section 1903—and to have those expenditures regarded as expenditures under the State’s Title XIX plan.</p>
Presumptive Eligibility Option section 1902(a)(47) insofar as it	To permit the State to provide presumptive eligibility for pregnant women and children using a method for determining presumptive eligibility that is not in accordance with sections 1920 and 1920A.	Continue with no changes

Program/ Policy Name	Current Terms and Conditions	Proposed Changes
incorporates sections 1920 and 1920A		
REM Demonstration Benefits	<p>Waiver to section 1902(a)(10)(B)—to enable the State to provide benefits specified in the special terms and conditions to Demonstration participants in the Rare and Expensive Case Management program which are not available to other individuals under the Medicaid State Plan.</p> <p>Waiver to section 1902(a)(23)(A)—to permit the State to selectively contract with a single entity for the provision of the Rare and Expensive Case Management (REM) benefit as authorized under this demonstration through Expenditure Authority 6. The operation of this selective contracting authority does not affect a beneficiary’s ability to select between two or more qualified case managers</p>	Continue with no changes
Residential Treatment for SUD	Maryland seeks to maintain expenditure authority under section 1115(a)(2) of the Social Security Act to claim expenditures by the State for substance use disorders in non-public IMDs—which are not otherwise included as expenditures under section 1903—and to have those expenditures regarded as expenditures under the State’s Title XIX plan.	Continue with no changes
Retroactive Eligibility section 1902(a)(34)	To exempt the State from extending eligibility prior to the date of application to optional targeted low-income children, except for infants under age one described in subsection 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(IV), or children described in subsections 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VI) or 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VII)	Continue with no changes

Per the terms of the section 1115 HealthChoice demonstration renewal as required by 42 CFR 431.420(c), the Department must conduct a post-award forum within six months of implementing the demonstration and annually thereafter. The forum is intended to provide the public with the opportunity to offer meaningful comments on the progress of the demonstration.

## Availability of the Demonstration Application and Submission of Comments

**As of May 4, 2021, the State's 30-day public comment period is open. The Department will accept comments through June 4, 2021.** The Department's draft section 1115 demonstration waiver application is available on the following website: <https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/Pages/1115-HealthChoice-Waiver-Renewal.aspx>. Hard copies of the application may be obtained by calling (410) 767-5208.

Interested parties may send written comments concerning the waiver amendment via email to [mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov) or via hard copy to:

**Tricia Roddy, Deputy Medicaid Director, Office of Healthcare Financing, Maryland Department of Health**  
201 West Preston Street, Room 224  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

## Public Hearing Information

The state will host two public hearings during the public comment period.

### **Virtual Webinar and Audio Conference #1: Section 1115 Waiver Demonstration Renewal Application**

Tuesday, May 11, 2021; 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Maryland Department of Health

GoToWebinar Virtual Platform

To participate in the public hearing via webinar, please register via:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2810866705598972683>

Please note that if you desire to make a public comment, you will need to register via the link above. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing audio and visual information about joining the webinar.

**Call-in number:** (415) 655-0060

**Access code:** 610-004-077

The call-in number and access code presented above is for attendees who wish to join in listen-only mode.

### **Virtual Webinar and Audio Conference #2: Section 1115 Waiver Demonstration Renewal Application and HealthChoice Post Award Forum**

Thursday, May 27, 2021; 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Maryland Department of Health

GoToWebinar Virtual Platform

To participate in the public hearing via webinar, please register via:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4831209426033221900>

Please note that if you desire to make a public comment, you will need to register via the link above. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing audio and visual information about joining the webinar.

**Call-in number:** 1 (562) 247-8321

**Access code:** 415-369-968

The call-in number and access code presented above is for attendees who wish to join in listen-only mode.



Claire Gregory -MDH- <claire.gregory@maryland.gov>

## MCO Liaison Meeting

1 message

**Carol Bradley -MDH-** <carol.bradley@maryland.gov>

Wed, May 5, 2021 at 11:09 AM

To: jmillier@chpdm.umbc.edu, Alexander Shekhdar -MDH- <alexander.shekhdar@maryland.gov>, Alison Donley -MDH- <alison.donley@maryland.gov>, "Alphius A. Sesay -MDH-" <alphiusa.sesay@maryland.gov>, "Alyssa L. Brown -DHMH-" <alyssa.brown@maryland.gov>, Angeline Huffman -DHMH- <angeline.huffman1@maryland.gov>, Aran Kim -DHMH- <aran.kim@maryland.gov>, "Asha M. Hicks -DHMH-" <asha.hicks@maryland.gov>, Athos Alexandrou -DHMH- <athos.alexandrou@maryland.gov>, "Aviana G. Cooper -MDH-" <avianag.cooper@maryland.gov>, Benjamin Wolff -DHMH- <benjamin.wolff@maryland.gov>, "Bernadette A. Benta -MDH-" <BERNADETTE.BENTA@maryland.gov>, Carlean Rhames-Jowers -DHMH- <carlean.rhames-jowers@maryland.gov>, Carol Bradley -DHMH- <carol.bradley@maryland.gov>, Chris Coats -DHMH- <chris.coats@maryland.gov>, Colleen Phebus -MDH- <colleen.phebus1@maryland.gov>, David Wertheimer -MDH- <david.wertheimer@maryland.gov>, Debbie Ruppert -DHMH- <debbie.ruppert@maryland.gov>, "Denise C. Hardesty -MDH-" <denise.hardesty@maryland.gov>, "Dennis R. Schrader -MDH-" <dennis.schrader@maryland.gov>, Dionne Washington -MDH- <dionne.washington@maryland.gov>, Dorine Rascoe -MDH- <dorine.rascoe@maryland.gov>, Douglas Adebajo -MDH- <douglas.adebajo@maryland.gov>, Elizabeth Kasameyer -DHMH- <elizabeth.kasameyer@maryland.gov>, Ellen Dalina -MDH- <ellen.dalina@maryland.gov>, "Emily J. Leonard -MDH-" <emilyj.leonard@maryland.gov>, Frederick Doggett -MDH- <frederick.doggett@maryland.gov>, "Januwa J. Epps -MDH-" <januwa.epps@maryland.gov>, Jennifer Forsythe -MDH- <jennifer.forsythe@maryland.gov>, Jennifer McIlvaine -MDH- <jennifer.mcilvaine1@maryland.gov>, Johanna Fabian-Marks -MHBE- <johanna.fabian-marks@maryland.gov>, "John Bohns (DHMH)" <john.bohns@maryland.gov>, John Parrish -DHMH- <john.parrish@maryland.gov>, Julie Misero -MDH- <julie.misero1@maryland.gov>, Laura Goodman -DHMH- <laura.goodman@maryland.gov>, "Lisa A. Burgess -DHMH-" <lisaA.burgess@maryland.gov>, Marcia Crandall -MDH- <marciae.crandall@maryland.gov>, Marian Pierce -DHMH- <marian.pierce@maryland.gov>, "Mark A. Esposito -MDH-" <mark.esposito@maryland.gov>, Mark Martin -MDH- <mark.martin1@maryland.gov>, Marlana Hutchinson -DHMH- <marlana.hutchinson@maryland.gov>, "Mary C. Gregory -MDH-" <claire.gregory@maryland.gov>, Mary Mussman -DHMH- <mary.mussman@maryland.gov>, Matt Asplen -DHMH- <matt.asplen@maryland.gov>, Michele Eberle -MHBE- <michele.eberle@maryland.gov>, "Molly Marra (DHMH)" <molly.marra@maryland.gov>, "Monchel D. Pridget -DHMH-" <monchel.pridget@maryland.gov>, "Nancy C. Brown -DHMH-" <nancyc.brown@maryland.gov>, "Nina W. McHugh -DHMH-" <nina.mchugh@maryland.gov>, Noel Brathwaite -MDH- <noel.brathwaite@maryland.gov>, "Pam Williams (DHMH)" <pam.williams@maryland.gov>, "Pamela R. Williams -MDH-" <pamela.r.williams@maryland.gov>, Patricia Rutley-Johnson -DHMH- <patricia.rutley-johnson@maryland.gov>, Raquel Robinson -MDH- <Raquel.Robinson@maryland.gov>, Sandra Kick -DHMH- <sandra.kick@maryland.gov>, Sheronda Weatherbee -DHMH- <sheronda.weatherbee@maryland.gov>, Simone Cook -DHMH- <simone.bratton@maryland.gov>, "Stephanie A. Boyd -MDH-" <stephaniea.boyd@maryland.gov>, "Tere H. Dickson -MDH-" <tere.dickson@maryland.gov>, Thelma McClellan -MDH- <thelmat.mcclellan@maryland.gov>, Timothy Goldsby -MDH- <timothy.goldsby@maryland.gov>, Tony Cegelski -DHMH- <tony.cegelski@maryland.gov>, Tricia Roddy -DHMH- <tricia.rodgy@maryland.gov>, Vesta Kimble -MDH- <vesta.kimble1@maryland.gov>, Vivian Dorsey -MDH- <vivian.dorsey@maryland.gov>, Yasmine Haughton -DHMH- <yasmine.haughton@maryland.gov>

Good Morning,

The MCO meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 6, 2021 from 9 - 11 a.m. Please see the phone number and Google Meeting link below.

Join by phone (US) +1 252-424-0097 PIN: 820 025 651#

Google Meet -[meet.google.com/wib-udiu-eau](https://meet.google.com/wib-udiu-eau)

Thanks

Carol Bradley

Medical Benefits Management Administration

201 W. Preston Street, Rm 214B

Baltimore, MD 21201-2399



## **MCO Liaison Meeting Agenda**

May 6, 2021

Conference Line: +1 252-424-0097 PIN: 820 025 651#

Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/wib-udiu-eau>

### **AGENDA**

- I. Eligibility and Enrollment Update – Debbie Ruppert/Trish Rutley-Johnson
  
- II. 2021 Maryland Legislative Update – Chris Coats/Alyssa Brown
  
- III. HealthChoice 1115 Waiver Renewal – Alyssa Brown
  
- IV. CMS Interoperability Rule Update – Molly Marra
  
- V. Very Low Birth Weight Reimbursement Policy and 17OHP Injections – Dr. Mark Esposito
  
- VI. Automation of MCO Third Party Liability Referrals – Jennifer McIlvaine and Tony Cegelski

### **Announcements:**

- 2020 Maryland HealthChoice Program Annual Technical Report Now Available
- EQRO Reporting and Hepatitis C Pre-Service Determinations – Starting Q4 2021
- COMAR Update Forthcoming – Federal Managed Care Regulation Changes

**Next meeting:** June 3, 2021

Phone: 410-767-5204

Email: [carol.bradley@maryland.gov](mailto:carol.bradley@maryland.gov)

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**3 attachments**



**MCO Liaison Meeting Agenda - May 2021 (Final).pdf**

111K



**Enrollment and Eligibility Updates May 6 2021.pdf**

383K



**2021legtrackingMMAC4-22.pdf.alyssa.pdf**

265K



## Public Hearing for Proposed §1115 Waiver Renewal Application

### Agenda

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

10:00 AM–12:00 PM

GoToWebinar Virtual Platform

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2810866705598972683>

Call-in number: (415) 655-0060

Access code: 610-004-077

Time	Topic	Presenter
10:00 - 10:10	1. Welcome and Introductions	Laura Goodman
10:10-10:20	2. HealthChoice Overview	Laura Goodman
10:20 - 10:40	3. §1115 Waiver Renewal <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Background</li><li>b. Continuation of Existing Programs</li><li>c. Modifications to Existing Programs</li><li>d. New Programs</li><li>e. Impact on Enrollment and Expenditures</li><li>f. Public Process</li></ul>	Alyssa Brown
10:40 - 12:00	3. Public Comment	Claire Gregory

## Public Hearing #1: §1115 Waiver Demonstration Renewal Application

Attendee List: May 11, 2021, 10:00-12: 00pm

GoToWebinar Platform

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## Public Hearing for Proposed §1115 Waiver Renewal Application

### Agenda

Thursday, May 27, 2021

3:00 PM–5:00 PM

GoToWebinar Virtual Platform

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/8081023846813750800>

Call-in number: +1 (914) 614-3221

Access code: 916-535-622

Time	Topic	Presenter
3:00 - 3:10	1. Welcome and Introductions	Laura Goodman
3:10-3:20	2. HealthChoice Overview	Laura Goodman
3:20 - 3:40	3. §1115 Waiver Renewal <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Background</li><li>b. Continuation of Existing Programs</li><li>c. Modifications to Existing Programs</li><li>d. New Programs</li><li>e. Impact on Enrollment and Expenditures</li><li>f. Public Process</li></ul>	Sandy Kick
3:40 - 5:00	3. Public Comment	Claire Gregory

## Public Hearing #2: §1115 Waiver Demonstration Renewal Application and HealthChoice P

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Wireman	Kim	kwireman@prcinc.org	Powel Recovery Center Inc.			

zhu

shu

shu.zhu@maryland.gov

MDH - BH Unit





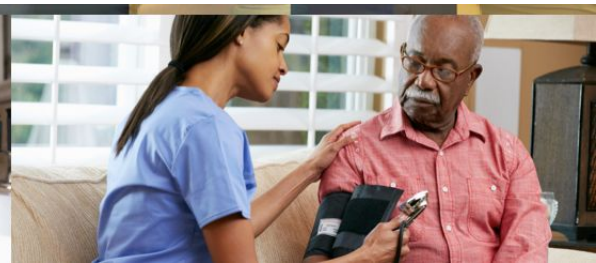
Please note that Public Hearing #1  
5/11/21 and Public Hearing #2 5/27/21  
had identical slidedecks.



# 2021 Medicaid §1115 HealthChoice Waiver Renewal Public Hearing

Office of Innovation, Research and Development

May 11, 2021



# Agenda

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- Welcome
- HealthChoice Overview
- §1115 Waiver Renewal
- Public Comment

# Housekeeping

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- Please join the meeting audio via phone and enter your audio PIN, which will enable you to speak during public comment.
- We will keep lines muted during the presentations; please also self-mute.
- Please indicate your name, title, organization, and email in the chat.
  - Please indicate if you will be submitting written comments or present verbal comments or questions during today's webinar.
- Send any questions you have through the webinar's question function; you may also utilize this function to sign up for public comment.
- Additional comments, letters, and questions can be submitted via email to [mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov)

# HealthChoice Overview

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# History of HealthChoice

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- HealthChoice, first implemented in 1997 under the authority of §1115 of the Social Security Act, is Maryland's statewide mandatory managed care program for Medicaid enrollees.
- The HealthChoice §1115 demonstration waiver was last renewed in 2016; the current waiver term extends for five years (calendar years (CY) 2017-2021).
- The HealthChoice program is a mature demonstration that has been proven to increase access to quality health care and reduce overall health care spending.

# History of HealthChoice

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- In December 2016, CMS approved Maryland's application for a sixth extension of the HealthChoice demonstration.
- This waiver renewal period is particularly focused on testing cost-effective, innovative programs that target the significant, complex health needs of individuals enrolled in Medicaid.
- CMS approved two amendments during the waiver period, in 2019 and 2020.
- The current waiver application will be submitted to CMS in June for approval by and implementation on January 1, 2022.

# COVID-19 Impact

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- Cannot disenroll members from Medicaid as a result of the Public Health Emergency, creating a significant impact on eligibility numbers compared to last year
- Expansion of services delivered via telehealth, including audio-only telehealth visits
- Waived enforcement of monthly premium payments for the Maryland Children's Health Program Premium and Employed Individuals with Disabilities, and introduced other flexibilities surrounding the delivery of long-term services and supports.
- Relaxed provider enrollment and registration requirements and collaborated with the MCOs to establish a global risk corridor as a fiscal safeguard



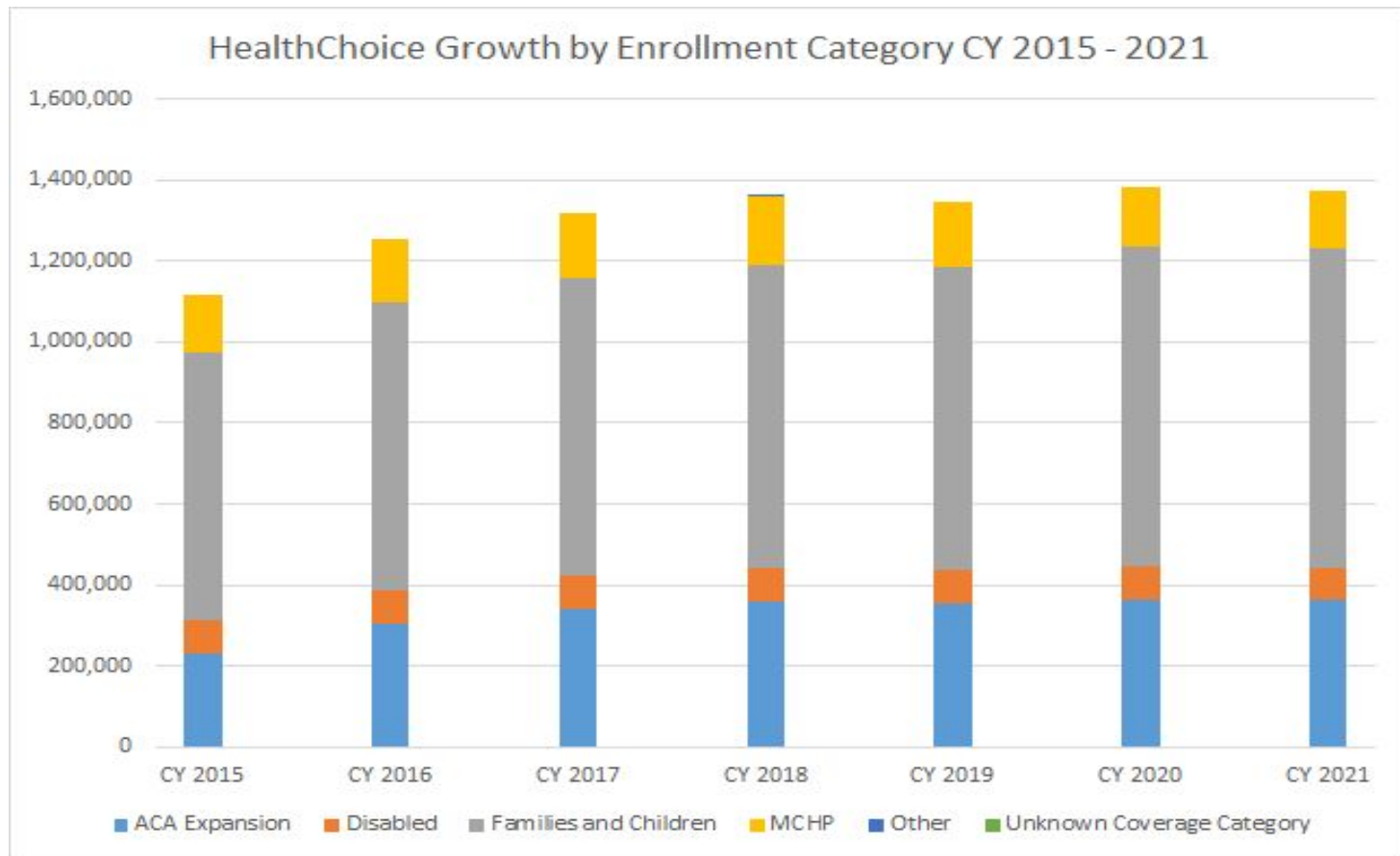
# Current Enrollment

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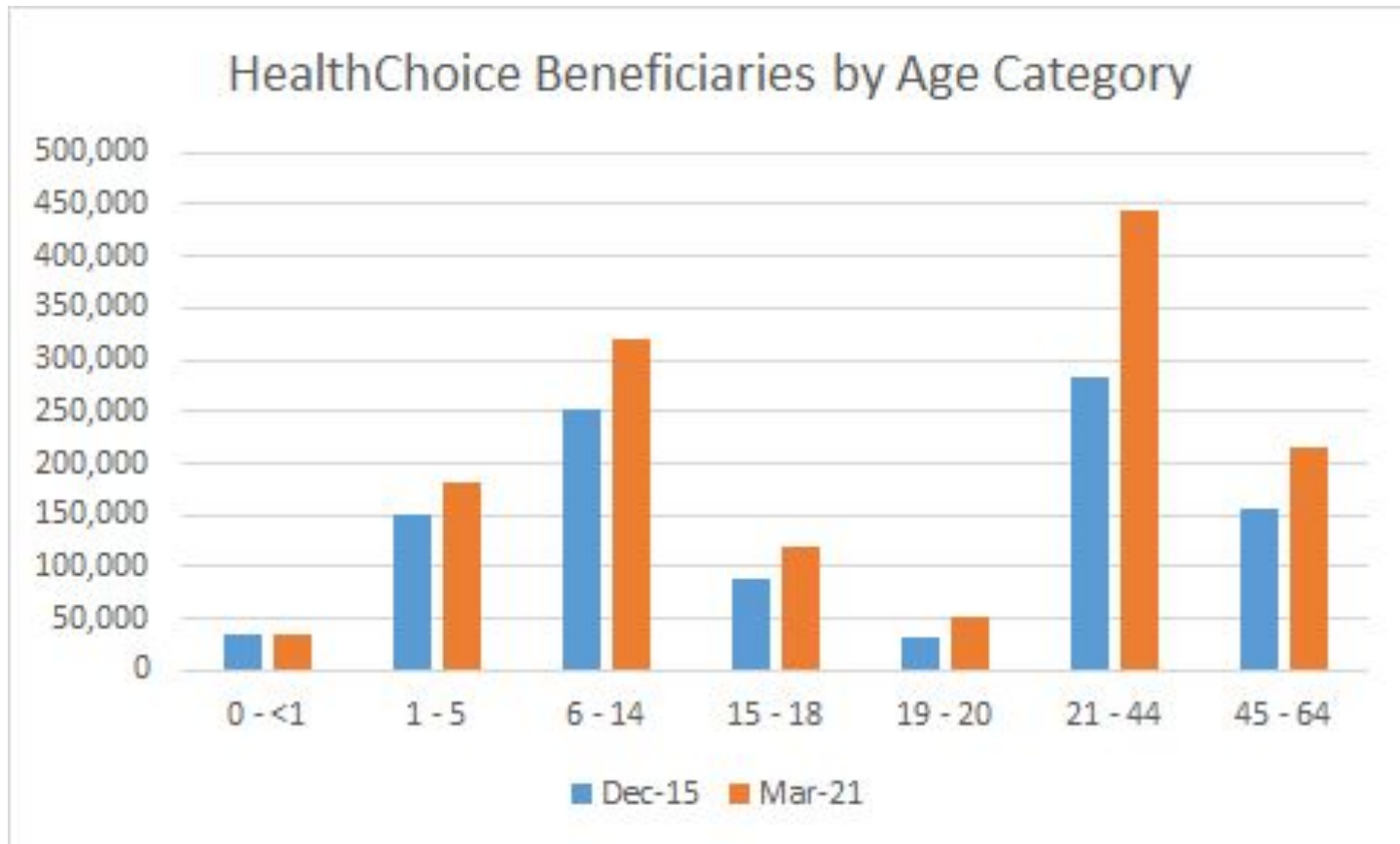
As of March 2021...

- There were 1,368,070 individuals enrolled in HealthChoice—representing 85.8 percent of total Maryland Medicaid enrollment and an increase of more than 155,752 in the past year.
- 360,023 adults were enrolled through the ACA Medicaid expansion, an increase of 45,068 in the past year.

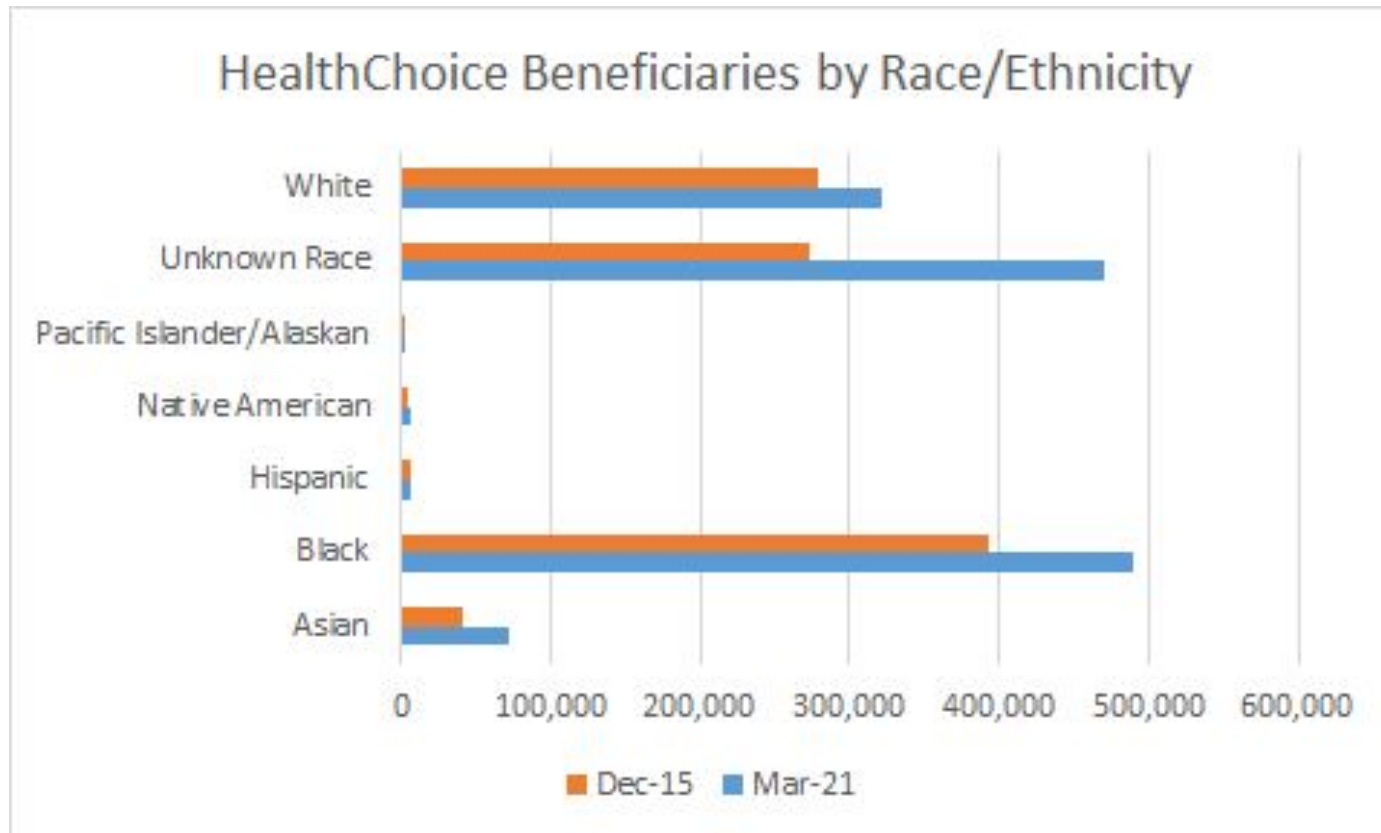
# Growth (2015-2021)



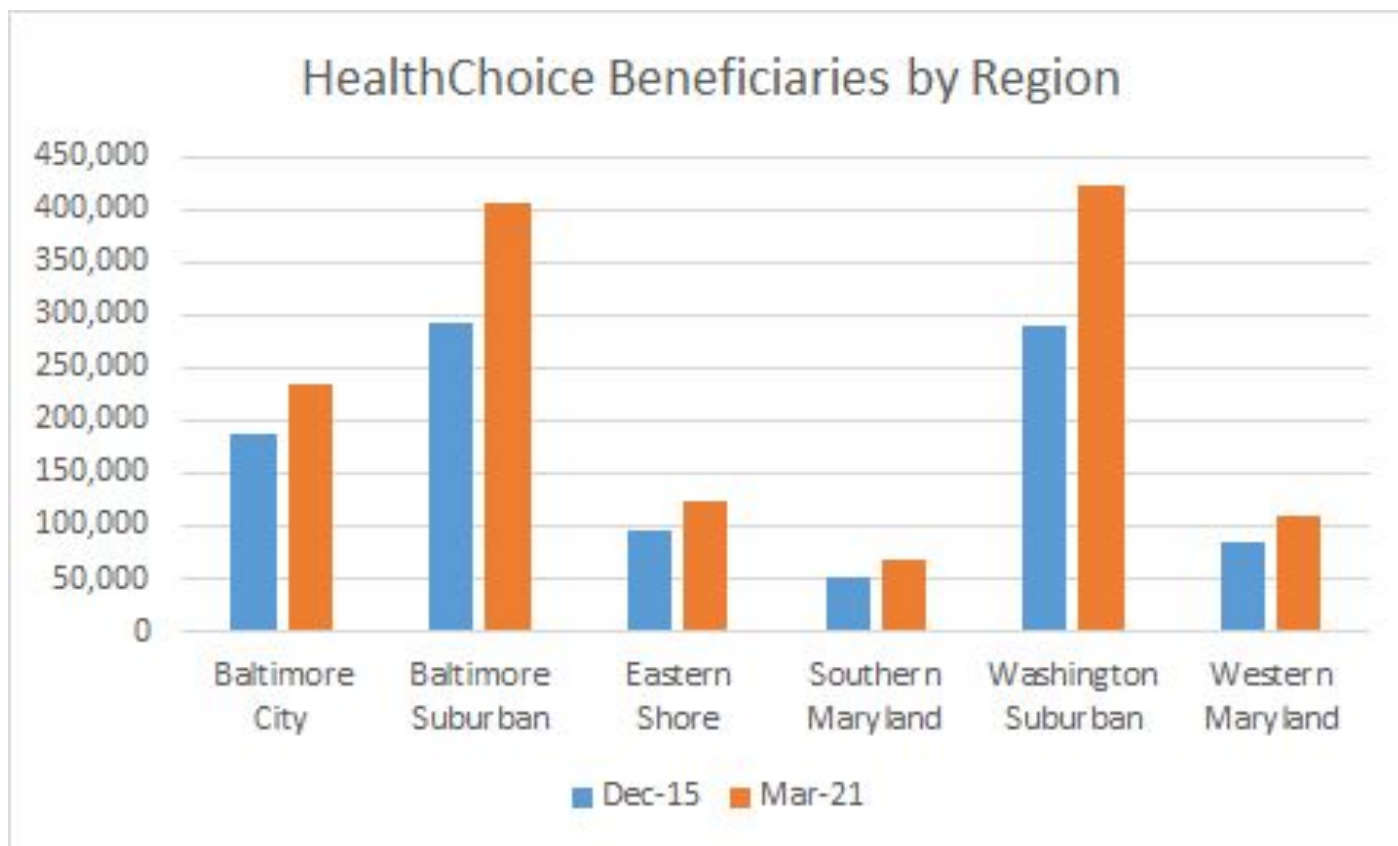
# Age



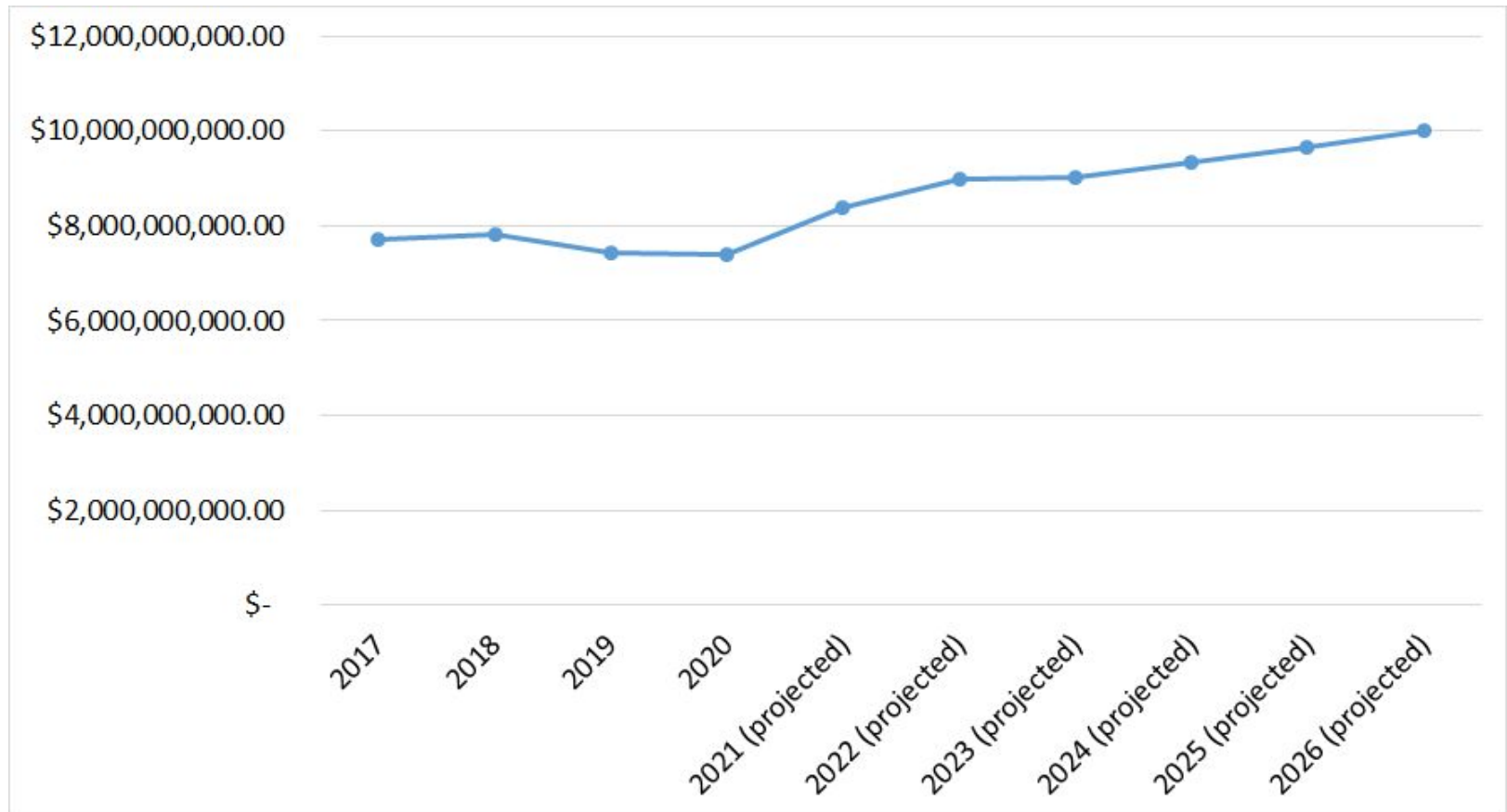
# Race/Ethnicity



# Geographic Region



# HealthChoice Expenditures



# MCO Market Share

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Nine managed care organizations (MCOs) participate in the HealthChoice program.

## **MCO market share as of March 2021:**

- Aetna Better Health (2.9 percent)
- Amerigroup (19.5 percent)
- CareFirst Community Health Plan Maryland (3.5 percent)
- Jai Medical Systems (1.9 percent)
- Kaiser Permanente (6.3 percent)
- Maryland Physicians Care (14.9 percent)
- MedStar Family Choice (6.5 percent)
- Priority Partners (21.0 percent)
- United Healthcare (10.2 percent)



# Performance Highlights

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## Between CY 2015 and CY 2019...

- The rate of potentially-avoidable emergency department (ED) visits decreased by 4.3 percentage points.
- Rates for well-child visits—as well as immunization—were consistently higher than the national Medicaid average.
- The percentage of pregnant individuals with a timely prenatal care appointment increased from 84.4 percent to 88.2 percent.
- The percentage of adults aged 50-64 who received a colorectal cancer screening increased by 6.5 percentage points.
- Individuals with substance use disorders who received medication-assisted therapy increased by 6.2 percentage points.

# **§1115 Waiver Renewal**

# §1115 Waiver Renewal Initiatives

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Continuation of Existing Programs without changes:

- Adult Dental Pilot Program
- Breast and Cervical Cancer Program
- Collaborative Care Pilot Program
- HealthChoice Diabetes Prevention Program
- Hospital Presumptive Eligibility Process
- Increased Community Services

# §1115 Waiver Renewal Initiatives

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## Modifications to Existing Programs:

- Assistance in Community Integration Services (ACIS) pilot - expanding from 600 to 900 spaces
- Home Visiting Services for High Risk Pregnant Women and Children (HVS) pilot - expanding the allowable service time frame of eligibility from age two to age three in the HFA model (this aligns now with that model)
- Residential Treatment for Adults with Substance Use Disorder - expanding coverage of ASAM Level 4.0 to include providers based in contiguous states
  - More than 12,000 participants expected to receive services annually
  - Coverage for up to two non-consecutive 30-day stays (no more than 60 days) annually; state-only dollars used for additional days.

# §1115 Waiver Renewal Initiatives

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## New Programs:

- The proposed changes for the renewal period 1/2022 – 12/2027 include expanding services under the following programs:
  - Expansion of Institution of Mental Diseases Services for Adults with Serious Mental Illness (SMI IMD)
  - Maternal Opioid Misuse model (MOM)
  - Emergency Triage, Treat, and Transport model (ET3)

# §1115 Waiver New Initiatives

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## Serious Mental Illness Institutions of Mental Disease (SMI IMD)

- Requesting expenditure authority to cover Medicaid adults aged 21 to 64 that have a diagnosis of SMI who are residing in a private IMD
- Estimated 3,960 participants served annually
- Up to two non-consecutive 30-day stays (no more than 60 days) annually; state-only dollars used for additional days
- Coverage available when delivered by facilities located in Maryland or a contiguous state

# §1115 Waiver New Initiatives

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## Maternal Opioid Misuse (MOM) model

- An initiative designed to link pregnant and postpartum Medicaid participants with opioid use disorder with needed health care and health-related social needs
- Seeking funding for PMPM payments for MCOs to cover enhanced case management services
- Will be piloted initially in St. Mary's County, with the aim of scaling to statewide

# §1115 Waiver New Initiatives

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## Emergency Triage, Transport, and Treat (ET3) Model

- A voluntary, five-year payment model that provides greater flexibility to ambulance care teams to address emergency health care needs following a 911 call by allowing for payment for ground transports to alternative destinations such as urgent care providers in addition to the ED



# Public Notice

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- The following online public hearings will discuss the content of the waiver renewal and solicit feedback and input from stakeholders:
  - First Public Hearing: 5/11/21, 10:00-12:00 pm
  - Second Public Hearing: 5/27/21, 3:00-5:00 pm
    - Combined with HealthChoice Post Award Forum Hearing
  - Full draft of the application was available for public comment on 5/4/21

# General Information

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- The 1115 Waiver Renewal draft is available here:
  - On the [main HealthChoice page](#)
  - Directly in [pdf form](#)
  - And with [a summary document](#)
- Hard copies may be obtained by calling:  
(410) 767-5208.
- Interested parties may send written comments concerning the waiver renewal to  
[mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov).
- The Department will accept comments from Tuesday, May 4th to Friday, June 4th.

# Questions and Public Comments

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Claire Gregory -MDH- <claire.gregory@maryland.gov>

## May 2021 MMAC Meeting

Claire Gregory -MDH- <claire.gregory@maryland.gov>

Thu, May 20, 2021 at 5:35 PM

Bcc: Adrienne.Breidenstine@bhsbaltimore.org, aclindsay@childrensnational.org, officemanager@machc.com, Alice Middleton <amiddleton@hilltop.umbc.edu>, Alison Donley -MDH- <alison.donley@maryland.gov>, allison.lavender@astrazeneca.com, "Alphius A. Sesay -MDH-" <alphiusa.sesay@maryland.gov>, "Alyssa L. Brown -MDH-" <alyssa.brown@maryland.gov>, athomas@mhaonline.org, "Amy A. Woodrum -MDH-" <amy.woodrum@maryland.gov>, "Andrea D. Wilson -DORS-" <andrea.wilson@maryland.gov>, acorsig@phrma.org, andrew.sandusky@abbvie.com, Angeline Huffman -MDH- <angeline.huffman1@maryland.gov>, ann@mdcbh.org, arlene.hahn.stephenson@gmail.com, Augustin Ntabaganyimana -DHS- SSC <augustin.ntabaganyimana@maryland.gov>, frui@uchicago.edu, sturkson@yahoo.com, tizemuba@yahoo.com, "Benjamin A. 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Good afternoon MMAC members and interested parties,

The **Thursday**, May 27, MMAC meeting from (1:00-3:00pm) will be held via GoToWebinar. The registration information is at the bottom of this email and also within the attached May agenda. Please limit this information to yourself and direct staff.

This email contains the May agenda with April minutes, last month's Departmental Report, the April Legislative report, the Maryland Health Connection presentation, as well as the May Regulation, SPA, and Waiver reports.

In regards to public comment, interested parties may email me ahead of the meeting or use the question feature in GoToWebinar during the meeting to alert the host to your desire to participate in the public comment portion of the meeting.

Please register for MMAC Meeting on May 27, 2021 1:00 p.m. EST at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/8081023846813750800>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Thank you,

--

M. Claire Gregory, MPH  
Special Assistant, Innovation, Research, and Development  
Office of Health Care Financing  
Maryland Department of Health  
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Baltimore, MD 21201  
P: 410.767.5814 E: [claire.gregory@maryland.gov](mailto:claire.gregory@maryland.gov)

**We encourage you to check our website and social media often for updates.**

For Medicaid-related Coronavirus updates, visit [mmcp.health.maryland.gov](http://mmcp.health.maryland.gov).

For questions about the Coronavirus, visit [coronavirus.maryland.gov](http://coronavirus.maryland.gov).

Follow us @MDHealthDept [facebook.com/MDHealthDept](https://www.facebook.com/MDHealthDept) and [twitter.com/MDHealthDept](https://twitter.com/MDHealthDept).

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#### 7 attachments



**MMAC Regs Report - MAY 2021.pdf**  
126K



**MMAC SPA Report May 2021 5.17.docx.pdf**  
42K



**MMAC Monthly Waiver Report May 2021.pdf**  
19K



**Enrollment Graph for April 2021 MMAC.pdf**  
735K



**2021legtrackingMMAC4-22.pdf**  
266K



**ARPAforMMAC.hf.pdf**  
842K



**MMACMIN21 APR.pdf**  
312K

## MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, May 27, 2021  
TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
LOCATION: GoToWebinar

Due to COVID-19, this meeting will be held through GoToWebinar only.  
Please register for MMAC Meeting on May 27, 2021 1:00 p.m. EST at  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/8081023846813750800>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Those who would like to make public comment should email Ms. Claire Gregory at, [Claire.Gregory@maryland.gov](mailto:Claire.Gregory@maryland.gov) or use the question feature to submit questions to the host.

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### AGENDA

#### I. Departmental Report

- In June 2021, the Department will submit its Maryland HealthChoice Program §1115 Waiver Renewal Application to CMS
- Information regarding public hearing registration and the draft application can be found on the Maryland HealthChoice Program §1115 Waiver website:  
<https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/pages/1115-healthchoice-waiver-renewal.aspx>
- Current public comment period: May 3, 2021-June 4, 2021
  - First Public Hearing was 5/11/21, 10:00-12:00 pm
  - **Second Public Hearing is today, 5/27/21, 3:00-5:00 pm**
    - Combined with HealthChoice Post Award Forum Hearing

#### II. HealthChoice Evaluation

#### III. Waiver, State Plan and Regulations Changes

#### IV. Public Comments

#### V. Adjournment

**Next Meeting: Thursday, June 24, 2021, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Staff Contact: Ms. Claire Gregory**  
[Claire.Gregory@maryland.gov](mailto:Claire.Gregory@maryland.gov)

**MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

April 22, 2021

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ms. Shannon Hall  
Rachel Dodge, M.D.  
Winifred Booker, D.D.S  
Ms. Marie McLendon  
Ms. Nora Hoban  
Mr. Ben Steffen  
Ms. Jessica Dickerson  
Ms. Vickie Walters  
Ms. Maansi Raswant  
Mr. Kenneth Garove  
Mr. William Webb  
Ms. Nicole McCann  
Mr. Paul Miller  
Kathryn Fiddler, DNP

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Adeteju Ogunrinde, M.D  
The Hon. Joseline Peña-Melnyk  
The Hon. Matthew Morgan  
Ms. Robin Moore  
Mr. Vincent DeMarco  
The Hon. Antonio Hayes  
The Hon. Pat Young  
Ms. Linda Dietsch  
Ms. Diane McComb  
Ms. Anna Sierra  
Mr. Floyd Hartley

**Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee**

**April 22, 2021**



### **Call to Order and Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Vickie Walters, Chair, called to order the meeting of the Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee (MMAC) at 1:00 p.m. Committee members approved the minutes from the March 22, 2021 meeting as written.

### **Departmental Report and COVID-19 Updates**

Ms. Tricia Roddy, Assistant Medicaid Director, provided the Committee with a combined Departmental report and COVID-19 update.

Enrollment continues to grow (see attached chart). We are currently serving 1,580,502 Maryland residents. As long as the Department is receiving the 6.2% enhanced federal matching assistance during the federal public health emergency, we cannot disenroll individuals.

The Department is actively working on ensuring Medicaid enrollees receive the COVID-19 vaccine. We are working with CRISP in generating lists of individuals at all different age groups who have not received, at minimum, an initial dose and we are providing those lists to our call center. The call center is actively placing calls and doing outreach to individuals. We are also giving these lists to the Baltimore Convention Center so they can do their own outreach as well. This does not include the other outreach initiatives that the managed care organizations (MCOs) and local health departments (LHDs) as well as other providers are doing. The Governor has launched his No Arms Left Behind campaign and the Department will continue to support those efforts to make sure that every individual receives the vaccine.

In June 2021, the Department will submit its Maryland HealthChoice Program §1115 Waiver Renewal Application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). CMS requires us to have an annual post-forum hearing to allow stakeholders and interested parties to comment on the 1115 waiver and hear how the Department is doing under the waiver. The first public hearing is scheduled on May 11, 2021 from 10:00-12:00 p.m. and the second public hearing on May 27, 2021 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. Information regarding public hearing registration and the draft application can be found on the Maryland HealthChoice Program §1115 Waiver website: <https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/pages/1115-healthchoice-waiver-renewal.aspx> Full draft of the application will be available for public comment on 5/3/21.

Our application will continue to request coverage of all of the programs that we have been covering under the waiver. We have committed to requesting a new amendment in the application. We have a waiver to cover residential substance use services in our current terms and conditions. We are committed to applying for a waiver amendment to cover psychiatric institutions for mental disease (IMD) in the next application. It will look similar to the substance use disorder (SUD) waiver amendment where we cover two 30-day non-consecutive stays in a rolling calendar year.

This legislative session the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) funded a couple of supplemental budgets. DBM funded \$92 million for physician fees. These monies will be used to ensure the evaluation and management (E&M) codes remain at 93 percent of Medicare. The Department tries to match our E&M rates to Medicare; however, Medicare changed its

methodology for calculating E&M code rates. In order to maintain the rates at 93 percent of Medicare, we had to put in an additional \$92 million into physician fees.

DBM also funded an initiative that allows the Department to expand eligibility for pregnant women. Currently we cover pregnant women up to two months post-partum but the expansion will allow us to cover pregnant women for an additional ten months. That supplemental budget also allows us to provide dental benefits during that post-partum period.

Our Community Options waiver allows nursing home level of care individuals to receive care in the community. We cover individuals under that waiver at a higher income level -- 300% in SSI -- and there is a registry and waiting list. DBM has funded an additional 400 slots for this program.

### **Legislative Wrap-Up**

Mr. Chris Coats, Health Policy Analyst, Office of Innovation, Research and Development, gave the Committee an overview of bills the Department is monitoring this legislative session (see attached chart). There was an unprecedented number of pre-filed bills, close to 800 bills before the session even started. This year we got busier than usual faster than usual with that amount of pre-files. What that meant for the Department is several of those bills got introduced early in the session and were put on the hearing schedule right away. Normally in a session the month of January is more about briefings on various issues that various members want to hear about, however, this year they got started right away with bill hearings. There was a general feeling amongst members that the session could get cut short like last year if there was a surge of COVID cases this winter. Members were hedging their bets and trying to get their bills in as early as possible to get a hearing and get voted on. The legislative session did make it to the 90 day conclusion and they adjourned on April 12, 2021.

The Governor held a bill signing day the day after session ended. Traditionally there are three more bill signing dates spread across April and May but that might not be the case this year. Last year they did have a bill signing date after the session ended but none after that and sometime in May the Governor had a press release with the bills that he was going to veto and those that would become law without his signature. Something like that may end up happening this year as well.

### **American Rescue Plan**

Ms. Heather Forsyth, Director, Consumer Assistance, Eligibility and Business Integration at the Maryland Health Benefits Exchange, gave the Committee an overview of the provisions of the American Rescue Act that MHBE has been implementing and its impact (see attached presentation).

### **Waiver, State Plan and Regulation Changes**

Ms. Molly Marra, Director, Medicaid Provider Services, gave the Committee a status update on waivers, regulations and state plan amendment changes.

**Waivers** – Public comment periods are now closed for the Brain Injury, Home and Community Based Options and Medical Day Care Services waivers and the waiver renewal applications were submitted to CMS.

**Regulations** – Several regulations are working their way through the process. School-Based Health Centers regulation changes are moving forward with adding payment procedures for physicians and nurse practitioners billing as SBHC sponsoring agencies. The Maryland HealthChoice Program: VBP regulation changes are now final.

**State Plan Amendments** (SPAs) – The Emergency Service Transporter Supplemental Payment Program has been approved by CMS. Work continues on the Family Planning Eligibility and the Coverage of the Administration of COVID-19 Vaccinations SPAs. SPAs submitted last month include: Nursing Facility, DDA Targeted Case Management, 1915i and BH Health Home rate increases, Providers allowed to order home health services, Medication Assisted Treatment and External Supplies and Products.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Adjournment**

Ms. Walters adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.



Claire Gregory -MDH- &lt;claire.gregory@maryland.gov&gt;

**ATTENTION: Draft MD Section 1115 Waiver submission - Renewal Application**

2 messages

Claire Gregory -MDH- &lt;claire.gregory@maryland.gov&gt;

Wed, Apr 28, 2021 at 8:02 AM

To: jessicad@nativelifelines.org

Cc: Sandra Kick -MDH- <sandra.kick@maryland.gov>, Tricia Roddy -MDH- <tricia.rodry@maryland.gov>, "Alyssa L. Brown -MDH-" <alyssa.brown@maryland.gov>, Laura Goodman -MDH- <laura.goodman@maryland.gov>, Annapurna Kocherlakota -MDH- <annapurna.kocherlakota@maryland.gov>, Ellen Dalina -MDH- <ellen.dalina@maryland.gov>, "Nancy C. Brown -MDH-" <nancyc.brown@maryland.gov>, Elizabeth Kasameyer -MDH- <elizabeth.kasameyer@maryland.gov>

Good morning Ms. Dickerson,

I am with the Maryland Medicaid Office of Innovation, Research, and Development and wanted to share that the Maryland Department of Health (the Department) is proposing a renewal application to its §1115 demonstration waiver known as HealthChoice. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has authorized the Department's existing §1115 waiver through December 31, 2021. HealthChoice, first implemented in 1997 under the authority of §1115 of the Social Security Act, is Maryland's statewide mandatory managed care program for Medicaid enrollees. Under HealthChoice, eligible families and individuals are required to enroll in a managed care organization (MCO) that has been approved by the Department. Each MCO is responsible for ensuring that HealthChoice enrollees have access to a network of medical providers that can meet their health needs.

The State's public comment period begins on May 3, 2021 and ends June 4, 2021. I will send you a copy of the draft waiver application on this email thread, when the public comment period opens on May 3. It will also be available on the Department's [§1115 waiver website](#).

We would love to hear your comments, if you have any, and possibly set up a phone call to discuss the renewal application with you. You may send written comments concerning the waiver amendment to Alyssa Brown, Office of Innovation, Research, and Development, Office of the Medicaid Director, Maryland Department of Health, 201 West Preston Street, Room 224, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 or via email to [mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov).

Thank you for your time and consideration,

--

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201 W. Preston St  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
P: 410.767.5814 E: [claire.gregory@maryland.gov](mailto:claire.gregory@maryland.gov)

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Claire Gregory -MDH- &lt;claire.gregory@maryland.gov&gt;

Wed, May 5, 2021 at 3:57 PM

To: jessicad@nativelifelines.org

Cc: Sandra Kick -MDH- <sandra.kick@maryland.gov>, Tricia Roddy -MDH- <tricia.rodgy@maryland.gov>, "Alyssa L. Brown - MDH-" <alyssa.brown@maryland.gov>, Laura Goodman -MDH- <laura.goodman@maryland.gov>, Annapurna Kocherlakota - MDH- <annapurna.kocherlakota@maryland.gov>, Ellen Dalina -MDH- <ellen.dalina@maryland.gov>, "Nancy C. Brown - MDH-" <nancyc.brown@maryland.gov>, Elizabeth Kasameyer -MDH- <elizabeth.kasameyer@maryland.gov>

Good afternoon Ms. Dickerson,

Attached to this email is a copy of the draft waiver application and a summary document which outlines the application and public comment process for the Department. The state's public comment period is now open and will end on June 4, 2021.

The first public hearing will be on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 from 10:00-12:00 pm and will be held via the GoToWebinar platform. To register, please use the link here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2810866705598972683>

Thank you,

--

M. Claire Gregory, MPH  
Special Assistant, Innovation, Research, and Development  
Office of Health Care Financing  
Maryland Department of Health  
201 W. Preston St  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
P: 410.767.5814 E: [claire.gregory@maryland.gov](mailto:claire.gregory@maryland.gov)

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For questions about the Coronavirus, visit [coronavirus.maryland.gov](http://coronavirus.maryland.gov).

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[Quoted text hidden]

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## 2 attachments



**Public Notice\_Maryland 1115 HealthChoice Waiver Renewal\_ Application Summary 2021.pdf**  
698K



**Maryland Draft 1115 Renewal Application 2021\_5.4.21 (2).pdf**  
4824K



Claire Gregory -MDH- &lt;claire.gregory@maryland.gov&gt;

---

**ATTENTION: Draft MD Section 1115 Waiver submission - Renewal Application**

---

Claire Gregory -MDH- &lt;claire.gregory@maryland.gov&gt;

Mon, May 24, 2021 at 2:12 PM

To: jessicad@nativelifelines.org

Cc: Sandra Kick -MDH- &lt;sandra.kick@maryland.gov&gt;, Tricia Roddy -MDH- &lt;tricia.rodby@maryland.gov&gt;, "Alyssa L. Brown -MDH-" &lt;alyssa.brown@maryland.gov&gt;, Laura Goodman -MDH- &lt;laura.goodman@maryland.gov&gt;, Annapurna Kocherlakota -MDH- &lt;annapurna.kocherlakota@maryland.gov&gt;, Ellen Dalina -MDH- &lt;ellen.dalina@maryland.gov&gt;, "Nancy C. Brown -MDH-" &lt;nancyc.brown@maryland.gov&gt;, Elizabeth Kasameyer -MDH- &lt;elizabeth.kasameyer@maryland.gov&gt;

Good afternoon Ms. Dickerson,

We will be holding a second public hearing for the 1115 Waiver Renewal Application this Thursday, 5/27 from 3:00-5:00 pm via the GoToWebinar platform. Here is the registration link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4831209426033221900>

Pending your review, we plan to submit the renewal application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

**Please review and respond by Friday, June 11, 2021 with:**

Reviewed: No comments

Reviewed: Comments attached; or

Request in person or phone review.

Thank you,

--

M. Claire Gregory, MPH  
Special Assistant, Innovation, Research, and Development  
Office of Health Care Financing  
Maryland Department of Health  
201 W. Preston St  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
P: 410.767.5814 E: [claire.gregory@maryland.gov](mailto:claire.gregory@maryland.gov)

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[Quoted text hidden]



Claire Gregory -MDH- &lt;claire.gregory@maryland.gov&gt;

---

**ATTENTION: Draft MD Section 1115 Waiver submission - Renewal Application**

---

Claire Gregory -MDH- &lt;claire.gregory@maryland.gov&gt;

Wed, Jun 9, 2021 at 5:21 PM

To: jessicad@nativelifelines.org

Cc: Sandra Kick -MDH- &lt;sandra.kick@maryland.gov&gt;, Tricia Roddy -MDH- &lt;tricia.rodgy@maryland.gov&gt;, "Alyssa L. Brown -MDH-" &lt;alyssa.brown@maryland.gov&gt;, Laura Goodman -MDH- &lt;laura.goodman@maryland.gov&gt;, Annapurna Kocherlakota -MDH- &lt;annapurna.kocherlakota@maryland.gov&gt;, Ellen Dalina -MDH- &lt;ellen.dalina@maryland.gov&gt;, "Nancy C. Brown -MDH-" &lt;nancyc.brown@maryland.gov&gt;, Elizabeth Kasameyer -MDH- &lt;elizabeth.kasameyer@maryland.gov&gt;

Good afternoon,

I hope this email finds you well! Please let me know if you need anything else to assist with your review of Maryland's 1115 HealthChoice waiver renewal application. I wanted to follow-up with this email to check whether you were planning to submit written comments. If so, we would need to receive them this week to meet our submission deadlines.

If you do not have any questions or comments to submit at this time, it would be helpful to know that as well. Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions. My cell number is 410.430.1636.

Thank you,

--

M. Claire Gregory, MPH  
Special Assistant, Innovation, Research, and Development  
Office of Health Care Financing  
Maryland Department of Health  
201 W. Preston St  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
P: 410.767.5814 E: [claire.gregory@maryland.gov](mailto:claire.gregory@maryland.gov)

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[Quoted text hidden]



Claire Gregory -MDH- &lt;claire.gregory@maryland.gov&gt;

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**ATTENTION: Draft MD Section 1115 Waiver submission - Renewal Application**

---

Claire Gregory -MDH- &lt;claire.gregory@maryland.gov&gt;

Tue, Jun 29, 2021 at 1:32 PM

To: Kerry@nativelifelines.org, jessicad@nativelifelines.org

Cc: Sandra Kick -MDH- &lt;sandra.kick@maryland.gov&gt;, Tricia Roddy -MDH- &lt;tricia.rodny@maryland.gov&gt;, "Alyssa L. Brown -MDH-" &lt;alyssa.brown@maryland.gov&gt;, Laura Goodman -MDH- &lt;laura.goodman@maryland.gov&gt;, Annapurna Kocherlakota -MDH- &lt;annapurna.kocherlakota@maryland.gov&gt;, Ellen Dalina -MDH- &lt;ellen.dalina@maryland.gov&gt;, "Nancy C. Brown -MDH-" &lt;nancyc.brown@maryland.gov&gt;, Elizabeth Kasameyer -MDH- &lt;elizabeth.kasameyer@maryland.gov&gt;

Good afternoon,

We have attempted to contact Jessica Dickerson in regards to comment on Maryland's §1115 demonstration waiver renewal application known as HealthChoice. Maryland's public comment period was from May 4, 2021-June 4, 2021. Pending your review the Department will submit its renewal application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). It is the Department's goal to submit this waiver renewal application by the close of business tomorrow, Wednesday, June 30. I have attached our draft waiver application and the public notice summary document for your review.

**As soon possible, please respond with:**

Reviewed: No comments;

Reviewed: Comments attached; or

Request in person or phone review.

CMS has authorized the Department's existing §1115 waiver through December 31, 2021. HealthChoice, first implemented in 1997 under the authority of §1115 of the Social Security Act, is Maryland's statewide mandatory managed care program for Medicaid enrollees. Under HealthChoice, eligible families and individuals are required to enroll in a managed care organization (MCO) that has been approved by the Department. Each MCO is responsible for ensuring that HealthChoice enrollees have access to a network of medical providers that can meet their health needs.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

410-490-1636

Thank you,

--

M. Claire Gregory, MPH

Special Assistant, Innovation, Research, and Development

Office of Health Care Financing

Maryland Department of Health

201 W. Preston St

Baltimore, MD 21201

P: 410.767.5814 E: [claire.gregory@maryland.gov](mailto:claire.gregory@maryland.gov)**We encourage you to check our website and social media often for updates.**For Medicaid-related Coronavirus updates, visit [mmcp.health.maryland.gov](https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov).For questions about the Coronavirus, visit [coronavirus.maryland.gov](https://coronavirus.maryland.gov).Follow us @MDHealthDept [facebook.com/MDHealthDept](https://facebook.com/MDHealthDept) and [twitter.com/MDHealthDept](https://twitter.com/MDHealthDept).Maryland Department of Health is committed to customer service. Click [here](#) to take the Customer Satisfaction Survey.

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Claire Gregory -MDH-** <claire.gregory@maryland.gov>



Date: Mon, May 24, 2021 at 2:12 PM

Subject: Re: ATTENTION: Draft MD Section 1115 Waiver submission - Renewal Application

To: <jessicad@nativelifelines.org>

Cc: Sandra Kick -MDH- <sandra.kick@maryland.gov>, Tricia Roddy -MDH- <tricia.rodgy@maryland.gov>, Alyssa L. Brown -MDH- <alyssa.brown@maryland.gov>, Laura Goodman -MDH- <laura.goodman@maryland.gov>, Annapurna Kocherlakota -MDH- <annapurna.kocherlakota@maryland.gov>, Ellen Dalina -MDH- <ellen.dalina@maryland.gov>, Nancy C. Brown -MDH- <nancyc.brown@maryland.gov>, Elizabeth Kasameyer -MDH- <elizabeth.kasameyer@maryland.gov>

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## 2 attachments



**Public Notice\_Maryland 1115 HealthChoice Waiver Renewal\_ Application Summary 2021.pdf**

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**Maryland Draft 1115 Renewal Application 2021\_5.4.21 (2).pdf**

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Claire Gregory -MDH- &lt;claire.gregory@maryland.gov&gt;

---

**ATTENTION: Draft MD Section 1115 Waiver submission - Renewal Application**

---

**Jessica Dickerson** <jessicad@nativelifelines.org>

Tue, Jun 29, 2021 at 2:00 PM

To: Claire Gregory -MDH- &lt;claire.gregory@maryland.gov&gt;, Kerry Lessard &lt;Kerry@nativelifelines.org&gt;

Cc: Sandra Kick -MDH- &lt;sandra.kick@maryland.gov&gt;, Tricia Roddy -MDH- &lt;tricia.rodby@maryland.gov&gt;, "Alyssa L. Brown -MDH-" &lt;alyssa.brown@maryland.gov&gt;, Laura Goodman -MDH- &lt;laura.goodman@maryland.gov&gt;, Annapurna Kocherlakota -MDH- &lt;annapurna.kocherlakota@maryland.gov&gt;, Ellen Dalina -MDH- &lt;ellen.dalina@maryland.gov&gt;, "Nancy C. Brown -MDH-" &lt;nancyc.brown@maryland.gov&gt;, Elizabeth Kasameyer -MDH- &lt;elizabeth.kasameyer@maryland.gov&gt;

Reviewed.

**Comments:** As an Urban Indian Health Program it is crucial for us to be able to collect timely and relevant data. While we have made some progress with Baltimore City and other areas, it is still not consistent for American Indian and Alaska Native to be a race category in data collection. We ask that American Indian/Alaska Native be added to **all** state documentation.

Thank you,  
Jessica

**Jessica Dickerson (she/her)**

Medical Case Manager

Native American LifeLines

410-837-2258 x 102

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**From:** Claire Gregory -MDH- <claire.gregory@maryland.gov>**Sent:** Tuesday, June 29, 2021 1:32 PM**To:** Kerry Lessard <Kerry@nativelifelines.org>; Jessica Dickerson <jessicad@nativelifelines.org>**Cc:** Sandra Kick -MDH- <sandra.kick@maryland.gov>; Tricia Roddy -MDH- <tricia.rodby@maryland.gov>; Alyssa L. Brown -MDH- <alyssa.brown@maryland.gov>; Laura Goodman -MDH- <laura.goodman@maryland.gov>; Annapurna Kocherlakota -MDH- <annapurna.kocherlakota@maryland.gov>; Ellen Dalina -MDH- <ellen.dalina@maryland.gov>; Nancy C. Brown -MDH- <nancyc.brown@maryland.gov>; Elizabeth Kasameyer -MDH- <elizabeth.kasameyer@maryland.gov>**Subject:** Fwd: ATTENTION: Draft MD Section 1115 Waiver submission - Renewal Application

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# 1115 HealthChoice Waiver Renewal

### Background

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has authorized the Maryland Department of Health's (the Department) existing §1115 waiver through December 31, 2021. HealthChoice, first implemented in 1997 under the authority of §1115 of the Social Security Act, is Maryland's statewide mandatory managed care program for Medicaid enrollees. Under HealthChoice, eligible families and individuals are required to enroll in a managed care organization (MCO) that has been approved by the Department. Each MCO is responsible for ensuring that HealthChoice enrollees have access to a network of medical providers that can meet their health needs. The Department's current §1115 Waiver Special Terms and Conditions can be found [here](#).

### §1115 Waiver Renewal Application (2021) - Updated May 4, 2021

The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) is proposing to renew its §1115 demonstration waiver known

as HealthChoice. The Department intends to seek authorization to continue current pilots and programs permitted under the current §1115 waiver, as well to modify the Assistance in Community Integration Services Pilot, the Home Visiting Services Pilot, and the Residential Treatment for Substance Use Disorder program. In addition, the Department is seeking authorization for new programs, including the Expansion of IMD Services for Adults with Serious Mental Illness, the Maternal Opioid Misuse (MOM) Model, and the Emergency Triage, Treat and Transport (ET3) Model.

In FY 2020, there were 1,620,533 individuals enrolled in the Medicaid program, including 1,370,465 individuals in HealthChoice. This demonstration is not expected to increase or decrease annual enrollment.

Per the terms of the §1115 HealthChoice demonstration renewal as required by 42 CFR 431.420(c), the Department must conduct a post-award forum within six months of implementing the demonstration and annually thereafter. The forum is intended to provide the public with the opportunity to offer meaningful comments on the progress of the demonstration.

As of May 4, 2021, the State's 30-day public comment period is open. The Department will accept comments through June 4, 2021. To review the Department's draft §1115 demonstration waiver application, please click [here](#).

### **§1115 Waiver Renewal Resources (2021)**

[DRAFT Full Waiver Renewal Application](#)

[DRAFT Waiver Summary Document and Public Comment Notice](#)

Hard copies of the application may be obtained by calling (410) 767-5208. Interested parties may send written comments concerning the waiver amendment to Tricia Roddy, Deputy Medicaid Director, Office of Healthcare Financing, Maryland Department of Health, 201 West Preston Street, Room 224, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 or via email to [mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov). The Department will accept comments from May 4, 2021, through June 4, 2021.

The following public hearings will discuss the content of the waiver amendment and solicit feedback and input from public stakeholders. The 2021 post-award forum will be held jointly with the second §1115 demonstration waiver renewal hearing on May 27, 2021 at 3:00 pm, via webinar. The webinar registration and call-in information are found below. Meeting materials will be posted on the following website as the meeting date approaches: <https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/healthchoice/Pages/HealthChoice-Post-Award-Forum.aspx>.

### **Virtual Webinar and Audio Conference #1: §1115 Waiver Demonstration Renewal Application**

Tuesday, May 11, 2021; 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Maryland Department of Health

GoToWebinar Virtual Platform

To participate in the public hearing via webinar, please register via:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2810866705598972683>

Please note that if you desire to make a public comment, you will need to register via the link above. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing audio and visual information about joining the webinar.

**Call-in number:** (415) 655-0060

**Access code:** 610-004-077

The call-in number and access code presented above is for attendees who wish to join in listen-only mode.

### **Virtual Webinar and Audio Conference #2: §1115 Waiver Demonstration Renewal Application and HealthChoice Post Award Forum**

Thursday, May 27, 2021; 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Maryland Department of Health

GoToWebinar Virtual Platform

To participate in the public hearing via webinar, please register via:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4831209426033221900>

Please note that if you desire to make a public comment, you will need to register via the link above. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing audio and visual information about joining the webinar.

**Call-in number:** 1 (562) 247-8321

**Access code:** 415-369-968

The call-in number and access code presented above is for attendees who wish to join in listen-only mode.

### **Archival Information**

### **§1115 Waiver Amendment (2020) - Updated May 5, 2020**

The Department has proposed an amendment to its §1115 HealthChoice Demonstration Waiver to establish a limited Collaborative Care Pilot Program. The State's 30-day public comment period was open from May 17, 2019 through June 16, 2019.

The approved §1115 HealthChoice Demonstration Waiver Amendment and Special Terms & Conditions (approved April 16, 2020) are available [here](#).

Visit the Department's dedicated [HealthChoice Collaborative Care Pilot Program webpage](#) for additional information.

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Please click [here](#) for more information on the HealthChoice Diabetes Prevention Program.

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### **§1115 Waiver Amendment (2019)**

The Department has proposed an amendment to its §1115 HealthChoice demonstration waiver to establish a limited Collaborative Care Pilot Program. The State's 30-day public comment period was open from May 17, 2019 through June 16, 2019.

The draft waiver amendment is available [here](#); the final waiver amendment (as submitted on June 24, 2019) is available [here](#).

Visit the Department's dedicated [HealthChoice Collaborative Care Pilot Program webpage](#) for additional information.

### **§1115 Waiver Amendment (2018)**

The Department submitted an amendment to its §1115 demonstration waiver known as HealthChoice on July 2, 2018. The State's 30-day public comment period was open from May 21, 2018 through June 19, 2018. CMS approved the 2018 waiver amendment in March 2019.

#### **§1115 Waiver Amendment Resources (2018)**

[Draft §1115 Waiver 2018 Amendment Application](#)

[Final §1115 Waiver 2018 Amendment Application](#)

[§1115 Waiver 2018 Amendment - Family Planning Clarification Letter to CMS](#)

[CMS Approved 2018 Waiver Amendment Special Terms and Conditions](#)

Baltimore City Public Stakeholder Meeting - May 24, 2018

- [Agenda](#)

- [Presentation](#)

Annapolis Public Stakeholder Meeting - June 6, 2018

- [Agenda](#)

- [Presentation](#)

## **§1115 Waiver Renewal Application (2016-17)**

Effective January 1, 2017, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved and renewed Maryland's §1115 demonstration waiver, known as HealthChoice, for a period of five years.

HealthChoice, first implemented in 1997 under the authority of Section 1115 of the Social Security Act, is Maryland's statewide mandatory managed care program for Medicaid enrollees. Under HealthChoice, eligible families and individuals are required to enroll in a managed care organization that has been approved by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Each managed care organization is responsible for ensuring that HealthChoice enrollees have access to a network of medical providers that can meet the health needs of each enrollee.

The 2017 extension made the following changes to the demonstration:

- Created a Residential Treatment for Individuals with Substance Use Disorder (SUD) program as part of a comprehensive SUD strategy;
- Created two community health pilot programs:
  - Evidence-based Home Visiting Services (HVS) pilot program to provide home visiting services for high-risk pregnant women and children up to two years of age; and
  - Assistance in Community Integration Services (ACIS) pilot program to provide housing-related support services for high-risk, high utilizers who are either transitioning to the community from institutionalization or at high-risk of institutional placement;
- Raised the enrollment cap for the Increased Community Services program from 30 to 100; and
- Expanded dental benefits for former foster youth.

## **§1115 Waiver Renewal Resources (2016-17)**

[Summary of the 2016 §1115 Waiver Renewal Application](#)

[Full Waiver Renewal Application](#)

[HealthChoice Special Terms & Conditions \(STCs\) \(Corrected version; updated 6/16/17\)](#)

[HealthChoice Extension Approval Letter \(Corrected version; updated 5/10/17\)](#)

[HealthChoice Extension Waiver Authority \(Corrected version; updated 5/10/17\)](#)

[HealthChoice Extension Expenditure Authorities \(Corrected version; updated 5/10/17\)](#)

[May 26, 2016: Public Hearing Presentation](#)

**Please click [here](#) for information about the Community Health Pilots.**

**Please click [here](#) for more information on the Adult Dental Pilot Program.**

**Please click [here](#) for more information about the 2018 and 2019 §1115 HealthChoice Post-Award Forums.**

Hard copies of waiver materials may be obtained by calling: (410) 767-1439.

For additional information or questions, please email [mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.healthchoicerenewal@maryland.gov).

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201 W. Preston Street, Baltimore, MD 21201-2399

(410) 767-6500 or 1-877-463-3464