



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.roddey@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.healthchoicere renewal@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.healthchoicere renewal@maryland.gov).

Thank you for your time and consideration,

--

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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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-" <nancy.c.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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## 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;

Wed, May 5, 2021 at 3:57 PM

To: jessicad@nativelifelines.org

Cc: Sandra Kick -MDH- &lt;sandra.kick@maryland.gov&gt;, Tricia Roddy -MDH- &lt;tricia.rodry@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;

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Thank you,

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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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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.roddey@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;

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

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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.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,

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;

**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.roddey@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  
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Baltimore, MD 21201  
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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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Claire Gregory -MDH- &lt;claire.gregory@maryland.gov&gt;

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

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Jessica Dickerson &lt;jessicad@nativelifelines.org&gt;

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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