



HEALTH CARE
AUTHORITY

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
Kari Armijo, Cabinet Secretary
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August 22, 2024

Daniel Tsai
Deputy Administrator and Director
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-25-26
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850

Dear Deputy Administrator and Director:

The New Mexico Health Care Authority, Medical Assistance Division received the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) approval to extend its section 1115(a) demonstration newly entitled, "New Mexico Turquoise Care" (Project Number 11-W00285/6) on July 25, 2024, in accordance with section 1115(a) of the Social Security Act.

Through this approval, the demonstration extension is effective July 25, 2024 through December 31, 2029 and provides approval of longstanding authorities as well as new initiatives including:

- Justice Involved Re-entry – providing limited coverage for a targeted set of services furnished to certain incarcerated individuals for up to 90 days immediately prior to the individual's expected date of release.
- Health Related Social Need (HRSN) Services – providing housing supports and related services including: short-term hospitalization housing with room and board for up to six months, where clinically oriented rehabilitation services and supports may or may not be integrated following allowable transitions and limited to a clinically appropriate amount of time; meals for pregnant members tailored to the health risk of pregnant individuals meeting risk and needs-based criteria.
- Housing Supports Expansion – expanding the types of providers implementing pre-tenancy and tenancy services to individuals beyond the existing Linkages Supportive Housing Program, and to add providers within Local Lead Agency and the Special Needs/Set Aside Housing Program (SAHP).
- Community Benefit Home-Delivered Meals – expanding Community Benefit services to include home-delivered meals up to two times a day for eligible beneficiaries.

New Mexico provides the following acknowledgements and assurances to CMS:

- This approval is subject to the limitations specified in the attached waivers, expenditure authorities, Special Terms and Conditions (STCs), and any supplemental attachments defining the nature, character, and extent of federal involvement in this project.

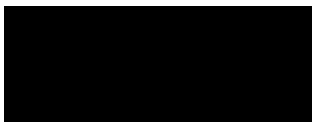
- New Mexico may deviate from the Medicaid state plan requirements only to the extent such requirements have been specifically listed as waived or not applicable to expenditures authorized under the demonstration.
- New Mexico will adhere to the STCs and 1115 demonstration requirements pertaining to deliverables, budget neutrality, monitoring, and evaluation.
- New Mexico agrees to reinvest the total amount of new federal matching funds for the Re-entry demonstration initiative into activities and/or initiative that increase access to or improve the quality of health care services for individuals who are incarcerated.
- New Mexico will maintain existing state funding and efforts for HRSN services, without this demonstration authority supplanting existing efforts, and will have in place partnerships with other state and local entities to coordinate possible pathways to permanency for services to be provided without demonstration authorities.
- New Mexico will phase out the Provision of Medical Assistance Waiver Authority as it pertains to Family Planning by December 31, 2025.
- New Mexico will phase out language from *Attachment A: Turquoise Care Community Benefit Definitions and Limits* by December 31, 2025, which allows certain Community Benefit beneficiaries through self-direction to select specialized therapies in their plan of care from Native American Healers within the \$2,000 annual specialized therapies limit; however, will continue to support Managed Care Organizations offering the value-added service of a stipend for beneficiaries to use towards traditional health care practices, which are not eligible for Federal Financial Participation (FFP).

New Mexico looks forward to its continued collaboration with CMS on requests not approved at this time, which include Traditional Health Care Practices, Rural Health Support, Long-Term Services and Supports Transformation, and Workforce.

Please accept this letter as formal written acknowledgement of the award and acceptance of the STCs.

We appreciate CMS' continued support and partnership to advance the objectives of New Mexico's Medicaid program and improve the health and well-being of New Mexicans. For questions concerning this acceptance, please feel free to contact New Mexico's CMS Liaison, Valerie Tapia at 505-257-8420 or Valerie.Tapia@hca.nm.gov.

Sincerely,



Dana Flannery
Medicaid Director
Medical Assistance Division

Cc: Dana Brown, State Monitoring Lead, CMS Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group
Julie Sharp, Technical Director, State Demonstrations Group
Sandra Phelps, Project Officer, State Demonstrations Group