



Region 10  
2201 Sixth Avenue, MS/RX 43  
Seattle, Washington 98121

SEP 21 2010

Susan Dreyfus, Secretary  
Department of Social and Health Services  
Post Office Box 45010  
Olympia, Washington 98504-5010

Dear Ms. Dreyfus:

This letter is to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving Washington's request to renew the Washington State Integrated Community Mental Health Program authorized under Sections 1915(b)(1), 1915(b)(3) and 1915(b)(4) of the Social Security Act, in order to provide managed care community mental health services to Section 1931, Children and Related Populations, Section 1931 Adults and Related Populations, Blind/Disabled Children and Related Populations, Blind/Disabled Adults and Related Populations, Aged and Related Populations, Foster Care Children, Title XXI CHIP children, and Other Special Needs Population (i.e., individuals with serious and persistent mental illness and/or substance abuse).

The waiver program is approved for a two-year period from October 1, 2010, through September 30, 2012. For Medicaid and CHIP reporting purposes and all correspondence related to the waiver, please use control number WA.08.R07 to report expenditures for the approved period.

If the State decides to request an additional renewal of this program, the renewal application must be submitted by July 1, 2012, which is 90 days prior to the expiration date. If the renewal is not submitted by that date, CMS may request a phase-down plan from the State prior to termination of the waiver program.

As discussed by CMS officials and State staff, the State has designed an Action Plan to address the requirement that Section 1915(b)(3) services must be available to individuals served under the waiver throughout the State. We appreciate the State's commitment to implement an Action Plan by April 1, 2012, to ensure discussion with stakeholders and the State Legislature, make appropriate actuarial rate adjustments, and develop revised contracts with the Regional Support Networks. We will continue to work with your staff on a regular basis to effectuate changes to the waiver, and appreciate the time and attention that has been given to making the appropriate changes. CMS will schedule bi-monthly meetings with the State starting in December of this year in order to monitor the implementation of the Action Plan. By that time, the State will have gathered additional information regarding the Governor's budget and how it will impact the Action Plan.

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The decision to approve the waiver renewal is based on evidence submitted to the Federal Team showing that the State's waiver program is consistent with the purposes of the Medicaid program, has met the applicable statutory and regulatory requirements for access to care and quality of services, and has been and will continue to be a cost-effective means of providing community mental health services to Washington's Medicaid beneficiaries.

We wish you continued success in this program. If you have additional questions or require any further assistance, please contact me, or have your staff contact Gilson DaSilva at (206) 615-2065, or [gilson.dasilva@ems.hhs.gov](mailto:gilson.dasilva@ems.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,



for

Barbara K. Richards  
Associate Regional Administrator  
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health  
Operations

cc:

Kathy Leitch, ADSA  
Alison Robbins, DSHS  
Cynthia LaBrec, DSHS  
Mary Sowers, CMS CO  
Ellen Blackwell, CMS CO