A photograph of a man with dark hair, wearing a bright green ribbed sweater, holding a young child with curly hair. The child is wearing a blue corduroy jacket over a pink shirt and denim shorts. They are outdoors, with a blurred background of a beach and ocean under a clear sky. The man is looking up at the child, who is smiling at the camera.

# Public hearing: Medicaid Transformation Project (MTP) amendment request

May 2023

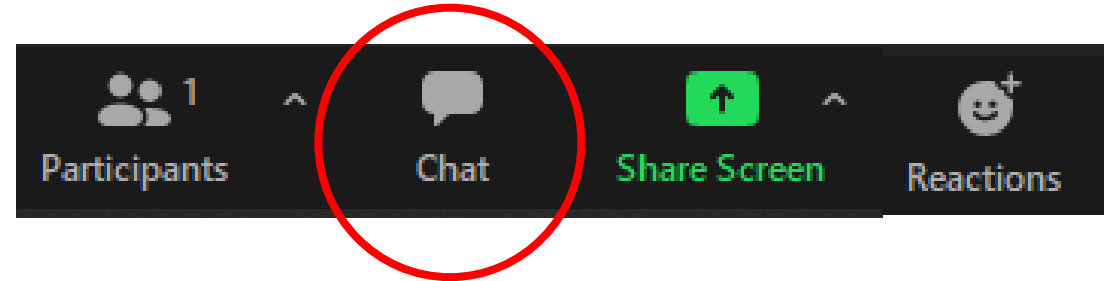
# Welcome to Zoom!

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▶ We're recording this webinar and muted all attendees.

▶ There will be time at the end for Q&A.

- ▶ Submit comments and questions using the **"Chat"** function.



▶ View the slide deck and public hearing recordings at [hca.wa.gov/about-hca/programs-and-initiatives/medicaid-transformation-project-mtp/mtp-amendment-request](https://hca.wa.gov/about-hca/programs-and-initiatives/medicaid-transformation-project-mtp/mtp-amendment-request)



# Today's presenter

## **Amy Dobbins**

(she/her)

**Apple Health Eligibility Policy  
Section Manager**

Office of Medicaid Eligibility Policy  
Medicaid Programs Division



# Today's presenter

## **Maggie Clay**

(she/her)

**Apple Health Eligibility Policy  
Deputy Section Manager**

Office of Medicaid Eligibility Policy  
Medicaid Programs Division



# Agenda

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- ▶ Medicaid and Medicaid Transformation Project (MTP) overview
- ▶ MTP amendment request overview
- ▶ How this amendment can help our state's children and youth
- ▶ Statistics
- ▶ Q&A

# About Medicaid

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- ▶ Medicaid is a federal health care program administered by each state.
- ▶ The Health Care Authority (HCA) manages Washington State's Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) programs under "Apple Health."
- ▶ Medicaid in Washington State is Apple Health.
- ▶ The federal government helps pay for the program and creates rules for how the program works.

# About Medicaid, continued

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- ▶ A state must apply for a Section 1115 Medicaid demonstration waiver when it wants to make changes from normal Medicaid guidelines.
  - ▶ Washington received this waiver in 2017, called MTP.
  - ▶ Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is our federal partner and the entity that approves MTP and its changes.

# About MTP

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- ▶ MTP allows our state to create and continue to develop projects, activities, and services that improve Washington's health care system.
- ▶ All work under MTP benefits those enrolled in Apple Health.
- ▶ Our **current MTP waiver ends June 30, 2023.**
  - ▶ Last year, HCA and DSHS applied to CMS to renew MTP for an additional five years.
  - ▶ We call the renewal "MTP 2.0."



# About the MTP amendment request

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- ▶ Health Care Authority (HCA) and the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) are requesting an amendment to the **current MTP waiver**.
- ▶ If approved, this amendment would authorize:
  1. Medicaid coverage for former foster care youth (FFCC)—also known as Alumni coverage in Washington—from other states who turn (or turned) 18 prior to January 1, 2023.
  2. Continuous enrollment for CHIP coverage for CHIP children during the first six years of their lives.

# About FFCC

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- ▶ If approved, this would authorize Medicaid coverage for FFCC from other states who turn (or turned) 18 **prior to** January 1, 2023.
  - ▶ Coverage will remain until enrollees reach age 26.
- ▶ This flexibility will provide coverage for FFCC who are not covered under the Support Act's mandatory coverage policy for those who turn 18 **on or after** January 1, 2023.
  - ▶ This coverage would apply through December 31, 2030.
- ▶ We estimate **180 FFCC enrollees will be eligible** for coverage during the MTP 2.0 period.

# About FFCC, continued

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- ▶ Allowing access to health services for FFCC ensures continued coverage as enrollees transition into adulthood.
- ▶ **Note:** we are also submitting a State Plan Amendment (SPA) to cover foster youth from other states who turn 18 after January 1, 2023.
  - ▶ Per Section 1002 of the Support Act
  - ▶ Between both authorities (the amendment and SPA), our state can cover all foster care youth from out of state, regardless of when they turn 18

# About continuous enrollment

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- ▶ If approved, this amendment would allow CHIP children to be continuously enrolled until the end of the month in which their sixth birthday falls.
  - ▶ Amendment for children, ages zero to six, who are enrolled in CHIP with incomes up to 317 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
- ▶ We estimate **16,707 enrollees will be continuously enrolled** from 2024-2028.



# How this amendment can help Washington's children & youth

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- ▶ If approved, this amendment will help our state continue providing coverage and ensuring access to health care for children and individuals who are at risk of losing their health care coverage.
- ▶ Access to health care is especially important for children and individuals experiencing health and behavioral issues.
- ▶ Children and youth are some of our state's most vulnerable people. We need to look out for and protect them.

# Some statistics

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- ▶ In December 2022, there were a total of 2,286,441 Apple Health-eligible people in Washington State. Of these, 99,921 were American Indian/Alaska Native.
- ▶ Gaps in coverage are higher for **children of color**, ages zero to six.
  - ▶ For children within this group, Washington data show **4.6 to 6.3 months of disruption in coverage** over 600 months of possible coverage.
- ▶ But we can change this!

# Q&A

What questions or comments do you have for us?



# Thank you!

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For questions, please email us at  
[medicaidtransformation@hca.wa.gov](mailto:medicaidtransformation@hca.wa.gov)