**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. §447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

**Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP)**

Effective with an approved amendment by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Independent Care Waiver Program and subject to payment at fee-for-service rates, the Department is proposing to add a new service of in-home skilled nursing. The service will be funded through the Balancing Incentives Payment Program (BIPP) in which Georgia receives an enhanced match to augment home- and community-based services through third quarter of SFY 16.

The following rates are proposed:

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| **In-Home Skilled Nursing Service** | **Rate** per 15 minute unit |
| Registered Nurse | $10.00 |
| Licensed Practical Nurse | $8.75 |

This change is estimated to increase expenditures as follows:

Program Total Funds State Funds

Aged, Blind, and Disabled, SFY 2015 $0 $0

Aged, Blind, and Disabled, SFY 2016 $1,607,586 $ 535,479

Aged, Blind, and Disabled, SFY 2017 $6,430,343 $2,141,917

This public notice is available for review at each county Division of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **October 16, 2014** at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th Floor Board Room. Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479. Citizens wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **October 23, 2014**, to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 1966, Atlanta, Georgia 30301-1966.

Comments submitted will be available for review by the public at the Department of

Community Health, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in Room 4074, 2 Peachtree Street,

N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the **November 13, 2014,** Board meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed changes at the Board meeting to be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th Floor Board Room.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 9th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2014**

**Clyde L. Reese III, Esq., Commissioner**