

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. §441.304(e), the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of waiver renewal submissions pursuant to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Home and Community Based Settings rule.

Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP)

Effective with an approved waiver renewal submission by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services the Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP) will be authorized for an additional five (5) years. No rate changes are associated with the ICWP waiver renewal. The ICWP waiver renewal establishes new cost neutrality limits associated with current claims information. The cost neutrality limit for nursing facility level of care will now be set at \$59,130 and hospital level of care at \$203,050. Waiver services will continue to be authorized based on medical necessity determinations.

The ICWP waiver renewal also includes detailed information outlining Georgia's plan and efforts to demonstrate ICWP compliance with the HCBS settings rule. Outlined within the waiver is Georgia's overall planning and outreach efforts. Milestone information for the next four years details specific tasks DCH and its partners will take to achieve compliance.

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 **January 21, 2016** 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. 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 **February 22, 2016** to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 1966, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

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 **March 10, 2016** 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 14th DAY OF JANUARY, 2016

Clyde L. Reese III, Esq., Commissioner