

PUBLIC NOTICE

Reinstatement of the Aged, Blind, and Disabled Nursing Home and Institutionalized Hospice Medically Needy Medicaid Coverage Program in the Medicaid State Plan

Pursuant to House Bill 744 from the 2014 legislative session and effective on and after July 1, 2014, the Department hereby notifies the public that it intends to submit a Medicaid State Plan Amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). This State Plan Amendment will reinstate the Aged, Blind, and Disabled Nursing Home and Institutionalized Hospice Medically Needy (“Adult Medically Needy”) Medicaid coverage program and remove the use of Qualified Income Trusts (QIT).

As of July 1, 2014, Georgia Medicaid will transition from establishing financial eligibility for nursing home and institutional hospice from the use of a Qualified Income Trust to an Adult Medically Needy process. Aged, Blind, and Disabled Adult Medically Needy Nursing Home and Institutionalized Hospice classes of assistance will continue to provide Medicaid coverage for individuals whose income exceeds the limit for Nursing Home or Institutionalized Hospice Medicaid class of assistance. Individuals who fall within this class of assistance must incur medical expenses in an amount that is sufficient to reduce their income below the income level established by the State. As of July 1, 2014, Georgia will no longer establish financial eligibility for this Medicaid class of assistance through use of a Qualified Income Trust. This change will not increase annual aggregate State expenditures.

An opportunity for public comment will be held on **June 23, 2014, 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 **June 30, 2014**, to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box, 1966, Atlanta, Georgia 30301. Comments may also be submitted via fax to (404) 651-6880.

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, NW Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3141. Comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the **July 10, 2014** Board meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed change 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 12th DAY OF JUNE, 2014

Clyde L. Reese III, Esq., Commissioner