

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. §441.301(c)(6)(iii), the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice related to the State's plan to comply with new regulation governing the settings in which the delivery of services to Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services waiver recipients may be provided.

Home and Community-Based Waiver Services (HCBS) Statewide Transition Plan

The intent of the new HCBS Settings regulation, which became effective March 17, 2014, is to optimize member access to the benefits of community living and maximize opportunities for members to receive services in the most integrated setting. Implementation is intended to enhance the quality of waiver services and provide protections and support to participants through person-centered planning and exercise of choice, conflict free and independent evaluation standards, and services provided in the most integrated setting.

In accordance with and related to new Home and Community-Based Services Settings regulations found at 42 C.F.R. §441.301(c)(4)-(5) requiring transition planning per 42 C.F.R. §441.301(c)(6), the state must submit a plan detailing actions to achieve compliance with the setting requirements. The regulations require a waiver-specific transition plan to be submitted in conjunction with any waiver amendment or renewal. In addition, the state has 120 days from the submission of a waiver amendment to submit a comprehensive Statewide Transition Plan. The purpose of this public notice is to make waiver recipients and other interested parties aware that the Statewide Transition Plan is available for public input. The state is seeking feedback on the proposed plan to ensure it is responsive to stakeholder needs. A 30-day public notice and comment period is required.

The transition plan does not impact Medicaid eligibility, benefits, services or rates.

This public notice is available for review at each county Division of Family and Children Services office and at <http://dch.georgia.gov/public-notice>. A copy of the transition plan is available on the Department's website at <http://dch.georgia.gov/waivers>. Initial and ongoing comment may be submitted to the designated e-mail address: HCBSTransition@dch.ga.gov

Several public forums are scheduled across the state to provide an opportunity for the state to provide education on the transition plan and individuals to provide public comment. The schedule is attached. Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate should indicate their accommodation requirements with their RSVP.

A formal opportunity for public comment will be held on **November 19, 2014, 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 **December 5, 2014**, to the Department of Community Health, Division of Medicaid, Aging and Special Populations, 2 Peachtree St. NW, 37th Floor, 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 the Department of Community Health Commissioner's Office, 2 Peachtree St. NW, 6th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 30th DAY OF October, 2014

Clyde L. Reese III, Esq., Commissioner

HCBS Statewide Transition Plan Public Forums

Location	Date	Time(s)	RSVP
Marietta- The Mansour Center 995 Roswell Street NE Marietta, GA 30060 Room: Travis Duke A	Tuesday, 10/28/2014	1:00 pm-2:30 pm Or 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	mariettahcbs@gmail.com
Macon- Disability Connections 170 College Street Macon GA 31201 Conference Room	Thursday, 11/6/2014	1:00 pm-2:30 pm Or 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	maconhcbs@gmail.com
Athens- The Classic Center 300 N. Thomas Street Athens GA 30601 Room: Empire Room 1 (706) 357-4444	Thursday, 11/13/2014	1:00 pm-2:30 pm Or 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	athenshcbs@gmail.com
Atlanta- Department of Community Health 2 Peachtree St, NW Atlanta, GA 30303	Friday, 11/14/2014	10:00 am - 11:30 am	virtual1114@gmail.com
Fayetteville The Lafayette Educational Center- Bldg D 205 Lafayette Avenue Fayetteville GA 30214 Room: Media Center	Tuesday, 11/18/2014	1:00 pm-2:30 pm Or 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	southmetrohcbs@gmail.com
Atlanta- Department of Community Health 2 Peachtree St, NW Atlanta, GA 30303	Wednesday, 11/19/2014	3:00 pm- 4:30 pm	virtual1119@gmail.com
Atlanta-Department of Community Health 2 Peachtree St, NW Atlanta, GA 30303	Thursday, 11/20/2014	10:30 am -12: 00 pm	virtualnov20@gmail.com