

## 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) AMENDMENT

Pending approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and Department of Community Health (DCH) Board approval, DCH proposes to amend the ICWP waiver to enact the 2023 DCH rate study effective July 1, 2024.

In calendar year 2023 DCH, in collaboration with the ICWP provider network, underwent a comprehensive rate study process to establish a current cost-based, reimbursement rate across all services. The rate study met requirements of Senate Bill 610 enacted during the 2022 session requiring a rate study be completed every four years for Home and Community Based Waiver programs. DCH proposes to amend the ICWP Waiver to adjust rates as indicated by the rate study.

#### Rate Increases:

Service Name	Current Rate	Amended Rate	Service Unit
Adult Day Health Half Day	\$43.11	\$61.53	Half day
Adult Day Health Full Day	\$71.86	\$100.72	Daily
Alternative Living Services	\$77.39	\$91.48	Daily
Behavior Management	\$15.48	\$22.34	15 minutes
Counseling	\$23.66	\$28.41	15 minutes
Emergency Response Installation	\$82.91	\$121.11	One time
Emergency Response Monitoring	\$27.64	\$40.36	Monthly
Enhanced Case Management	\$509.64	\$515.58	Monthly
Environmental Modification	\$8844.00	\$20,000	Lifetime
Fiscal Intermediary	\$82.91	\$95.00	Monthly
Personal Support Level 1	\$19.86	\$25.53	Hourly
Personal Support Level 2	\$22.33	\$27.54	Hourly
Respite Care Level 1 15-minute	\$2.43	\$6.38	15 minutes
Respite Care Level 2 15-minute	\$2.87	\$6.89	15 minutes
Respite Care Level 3 15-minute	\$3.32	\$7.39	15 minutes
Respite Care Level 1 Full Day	\$78.00	\$105.01	Daily
Respite Care Level 2 Full Day	\$91.76	\$121.09	Daily
Respite Care Level 3 Full Day	\$105.53	\$133.96	Daily
Skilled Nursing LPN	\$9.68	\$15.85	15 minutes
Skilled Nursing RN	\$11.06	\$23.84	15 minutes
Skilled Nursing RN Per Diem	\$55.04	\$95.34	Per visit
Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies*	\$1134.24	\$1134.24	Max per month
Traditional Case Management	\$6.91	\$14.45	15 minutes
Vehicle Adaptation	\$248.74	\$15,000	Max per year

**\*Note: Rate study did not indicate an increase for Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies.**

The fiscal impact of the proposed rate amendment is as follows:

	State Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
SFY 2025	\$9,734,732	\$18,913,685	\$28,648,417

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 **March 18, 2024 at 1:00 p.m., via Zoom audio**. There will be **no in-person** attendance at the Department of Community Health (DCH).

Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479 at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled public hearing to ensure any necessary accommodations can be provided.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87355879840?pwd=TXNXKzhSeEFHV0pTck96blFSdmtuZz09>

Meeting ID: 873 5587 9840

Passcode: 195452

One tap mobile

+13092053325,,87355879840#,,, \*195452# US

+13126266799,,87355879840#,,, \*195452# US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 873 5587 9840

Passcode: 195452

Individuals wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **April 15, 2024**, to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 1966, Atlanta, Georgia 30301-1966. You may also email comments to Danisha Williams, [danwilliams@dch.ga.gov](mailto:danwilliams@dch.ga.gov) or fax to 404-651-6880.

Comments submitted will be available for review by submitting a request via email to Danisha Williams, [danwilliams@dch.ga.gov](mailto:danwilliams@dch.ga.gov).

If the proposed changes are presented to the Board for final action, relevant comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board. The Board expects to vote on the proposed changes at the Board meeting to be held on **May 9, 2024** at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Community Health unless withdrawn or withheld by the Department for further review.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 14<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2024**

**Russel Carlson, Commissioner**