

Public Notice

On July 15, 1997, New York State's Medicaid Managed care demonstration program, "The Partnership Plan," was approved by the Federal government under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act. The demonstration requires mandatory enrollment of Medicaid beneficiaries in managed care plans and is designed to improve the health status of low income New Yorkers by: improving access to health services, providing enrollees with a medical home, improving the quality of service provided and expanding coverage to the uninsured with resources generated by managed care efficiencies. The Partnership Plan has resulted in a cost-effective program that has achieved these goals. Amendments to the waiver have expanded coverage through the implementation of the Family Health Plus (FHPlus) program and the Family Planning Expansion Program. On September 29, 2006, New York received approval from the Federal government to extend The Partnership Plan for an additional three years through September 30, 2009.

With the Partnership Plan due to expire on September 30, 2009, the State is preparing a request for federal approval to extend the demonstration for an additional three years through September 30, 2012. The extension will also include requests to expand mandatory enrollment to additional counties when there is sufficient capacity and to expand coverage under government health insurance programs pursuant to recommendations from the Partnership for Coverage.

On September 29, 2006 New York received approval of a second 1115 waiver the "Federal State Health Reform Partnership" (F-SHRP). Through the F-SHRP waiver, New York joined in a partnership with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to reform and restructure the State's healthcare delivery system.

The 1115 waivers require the State to seek Federal approval of any amendments. In addition to a three year extension of The Partnership Plan, New York is seeking approval of an amendment to both waivers to implement mandatory managed care enrollment of Medicaid beneficiaries with HIV/AIDS and to provide twelve months continuous coverage for certain Medicaid and FHPlus beneficiaries statewide.

Additional information concerning the Partnership Plan, F-SHRP and the proposed amendments can be obtained by writing to:

New York State Department of Health
Division of Managed Care
Bureau of Program Planning and Implementation
Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower, Rm 1927
Albany, New York 12237

A detailed summary of the requests will be available to the public on-line at http://www.health.state.ny.us/health_care/managed_care/index.htm. Written comments will be accepted at the above address and at omcmail@health.state.ny.us for a period of forty-five (45) days from the date of this notice.