

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 441.301, the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is required to give public notice and receive public input on any significant proposed changes to the 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers.

MEDICALLY FRAGILE WAIVER AMENDMENT:

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is seeking to amend the Medically Fragile Waiver (MFW). The purpose of the Home and Community Based Medically Fragile Waiver program is to assist Medicaid members who have been diagnosed with a medically fragile condition who require a hospital/skilled nursing facility (H/SNF) level of care and whose needs could not otherwise be met through another Oklahoma waiver program. The only change is to include one-time supplemental payments to 1) support salary enhancements for recruitment and retention of Direct Support Professionals; 2) provide reimbursement of the employer's share of payroll taxes; and 3) provide incentives to participate in the program. These payments will be made to any provider employing Direct Support Professionals providing care to persons receiving Medically Fragile Waiver services.

ADVANTAGE WAIVER AMENDMENT:

The Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OHS) is seeking to amend the *ADvantage* Waiver. The Home and Community Based *ADvantage* Waiver program provides alternatives to placement in a nursing facility for eligible adults. The only change is to include one-time supplemental payments to 1) support salary enhancements for recruitment and retention of Direct Support Professionals; 2) provide reimbursement of the employer's share of payroll taxes; and 3) provide incentives to participate in the program. These payments will be made to any provider employing Direct Support Professionals providing care to persons receiving *ADvantage* Waiver services.

COMMUNITY WAIVER AMENDMENT:

The Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OHS) is seeking to amend the Community Waiver. The Community Waiver serves individuals with Intellectual Disabilities beginning at age three. The only change is to include one-time supplemental payments to 1) support salary enhancements for recruitment and retention of Direct Support Professionals; 2) provide reimbursement of the employer's share of payroll taxes; and 3) provide incentives to participate in the program. These payments will be made to any provider employing Direct Support Professionals providing care to persons receiving Community Waiver services.

HOMeward BOUND WAIVER AMENDMENT:

The Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OHS) is seeking to amend the Homeward Bound Waiver. The Homeward Bound Waiver serves individuals with intellectual disabilities who have been certified by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma as a member of the Plaintiff Class in *Homeward Bound et al.*, Case No. 85-C-437-e. The only change is to include one-time supplemental payments to 1) support salary enhancements for recruitment and retention of Direct Support Professionals; 2) provide reimbursement of the employer's share of payroll taxes; and 3) provide incentives to participate

in the program. These payments will be made to any provider employing Direct Support Professionals providing care to persons receiving Homeward Bound Waiver services.

IN-HOME SUPPORTS WAIVER FOR ADULTS AMENDMENT:

The Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OHS) is seeking an amendment to the In-Home Supports Waiver for Adults (IHSW-A). The IHSW-A serves individuals with intellectual disabilities age 18 and over. The only change is to include one-time supplemental payments to 1) support salary enhancements for recruitment and retention of Direct Support Professionals; 2) provide reimbursement of the employer's share of payroll taxes; and 3) provide incentives to participate in the program. These payments will be made to any provider employing Direct Support Professionals providing care to persons receiving In-Home Supports Waiver for Adults services.

IN-HOME SUPPORTS WAIVER FOR CHILDREN AMENDMENT:

The Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OHS) is seeking an amendment to the In-Home Supports Waiver for Children (IHSW-C). The IHSW-C serves individuals with intellectual disabilities ages 3 through 17. The only change is to include one-time supplemental payments to 1) support salary enhancements for recruitment and retention of Direct Support Professionals; 2) provide reimbursement of the employer's share of payroll taxes; and 3) provide incentives to participate in the program. These payments will be made to any provider employing Direct Support Professionals providing care to persons receiving In-Home Supports Waiver for Children services.

The above amendments will be effective upon approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) or December 1, 2023, whichever is earliest.

Please submit all comments by close of business November 14, 2023. Comments may be submitted in writing to the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, 4345 N. Lincoln Blvd. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105. Attention: Health Policy 1915(c) Waivers.

To request a free hard copy of the waivers, please call 1-888-287-2443 or send your request to the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, 4345 N. Lincoln Blvd. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105. Attention: Health Policy 1915(c) Waivers.

Comments may also be submitted by federal.authorities@okhca.org