



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

I/T/U Public Notice 2009-05

October 5, 2009

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is asking for your assistance and input on an exciting opportunity to develop a home and community-based services waiver application for submission to the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) for their approval. Will you please join us for a tribal consultation meeting? It is scheduled for October 15, 2009, 10:00 AM until Noon in the OHCA Boardroom, 4545 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 124, Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

Here is a brief description of the new proposed waiver to serve medically fragile individuals:

A new Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waiver is being developed for Medicaid recipients who have been diagnosed with a medically fragile condition who require a Hospital/Skilled Nursing Facility (H/SNF) level of care (LOC) and whose needs could not otherwise be met through another Oklahoma Waiver. A "medically fragile condition" is defined as a chronic physical condition, which results in prolonged dependency on medical care for which daily skilled nursing intervention is medically necessary and is characterized by one or more of the following:

- (1) There is a life threatening condition characterized by reasonably frequent periods of acute exacerbation which requires frequent medical supervision, and/or physician consultation and which in the absence of such supervision or consultation would require hospitalization.
- (2) The individual requires frequent, time consuming administration of specialized treatments which are medically necessary.
- (3) The individual is dependent on medical technology such that without the technology a reasonable level of health could not be maintained. Examples include but are not limited to dependence on ventilators, dialysis machines, enteral or parenteral nutrition support and continuous oxygen.

Based on an analysis of claims for such individuals, OHCA is considering a waiver service package that might include:

- Advanced Supportive/Restorative Care
- Case Management Services

- Environmental Modifications
- Home-Delivered Meals
- Hospice
- Occupational Therapy
- Personal Care
- Prescription Drugs
- PERS
- Physical Therapy
- Private Duty Nursing
- Respiratory Therapy
- Respite Care
- Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies
- Speech Therapy
- Skilled Nursing

Keep in mind that members served under these waivers maintain their traditional SoonerCare (Medicaid) benefits. If you presently serve such persons in your hospital or clinic - these services will not change. You are being asked to participate in the development of the waiver application to CMS because your organization is committed to serving individuals with special health care needs. If this waiver application is approved, your organization could perhaps also serve waiver members by providing the specialized services in the waiver benefit package. In addition, you would be an informed referral source to help direct potential waiver members to this program.

If you have any questions about this meeting or wish to RSVP, please contact Trevlyn Cross, Director of the OHCA Indian Health Unit at 405-522-7303.

Thank you for the services and support you provide to SoonerCare members.

Sincerely,


Mike Fogarty