**EOHHS Listening Session**

**Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Renewal Application:**

Traumatic Brain Injury

January 11, 2024

**Zoom/Conference Call Logistics**

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* + On your telephone, use the MUTE function
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***Thank you!***

**Agenda**

* Introductions
* Overview of Waiver Renewal
* Summary of Changes Being Proposed
* Process & Timeline
* Public Comments

**Common Acronyms and Terms**

CMS - Centers for Medicate and Medicaid Services

EOHHS - Executive Office of Health and Human Services

HCBS - Home and Community Based Services

MassHealth - The Massachusetts Medicaid Program

MRC – Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

TBI – Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver

**Overview: Waiver Amendment Process**

* CMS typically approves Home and Community Based Services waivers for a period of five years.
* Waivers must then be renewed with CMS.
* MassHealth and MRC jointly developed this renewal application.
* The draft waiver renewal application was posted on December 11, 2023. The public comment period ends on January 26, 2024.
* Today we are holding a listening session to hear public comments about the amendment application.

**Overview: TBI Waiver**

The TBI Waiver supports individuals with TBI who are at a nursing facility or chronic/rehabilitation hospital level of care to live in their homes or other community settings.

To qualify for the TBI Waiver, an individual must:

* Be aged 18 or older with a TBI
* Be able to be safely served in the community within the terms of the waiver
* Meet the special financial requirements to qualify for MassHealth Standard in the community

**Summary of Proposed Changes in this Renewal**

* Updating descriptions of operational and administrative processes to reflect current procedures, systems, and staffing and structure at MRC.
* Updating Appendix G-3 details relating to the structure of Massachusetts’ Medication Administration Program as regulated by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
* Updating the Appendix J estimates for service utilization and spending through the 5-year renewal period.

**Process: HCBS Waiver Renewal**

1. MRC and MassHealth collaborate to identify updates
2. Gather public input
3. Review public comments and make additional revisions to the amendment application where appropriate
4. Request CMS approval
5. Implement updates when waiver amendment authorization period begins

**Timeline**

Request approval from CMS at least three months prior to desired effective date

**Target submission date**

March 2024

**Target effective date**

July 1, 2024

**Public Comment: EOHHS requests public input**

* **Last day to submit comments: January 26, 2024**
  + Comments may be submitted via email or mail to EOHHS:
  + Email: [HCBSWaivers@mass.gov](mailto:HCBSWaivers@mass.gov) (Please state “TBI Waiver Comments” on the subject line)
  + Mail: HCBS Waiver Unit, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, RE: TBI Waiver Comments, 1 Ashburton Place, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02108
* Applications with the proposed changes and this presentation are posted online:
  + <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/home-and-community-based-services-waiver-renewal-and-amendment-applications-public-input-process>
  + Hard copies of the applications with proposed changes are available upon request. Please use email or mailing address above.

**Public Comment:   
Oral Comment at Today’s Listening Session**

* Share your input with us today
* Please state your name and affiliation (e.g., waiver participant, family member, waiver service provider, etc.)
* Oral comment at today’s session does **not** need to be submitted in writing
* If you wish to provide comments but are unable to do so during today’s session, please email your comments by January 26, 2024.

***Thank you!***