

Specialist, Department of Social Services, Family Services Division, 25 Sigourney St., Hartford, CT 06106 or julie.bisi@ct.gov.

A full copy of the report is available at no cost upon request to the Department. To receive a copy, email julie.bisi@ct.gov or call (860) 424-5877.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Notice of Proposed Changes to the State Medicaid Plan

The Department of Social Services (DSS) proposes to amend its Medicaid State Plan on or before December 31, 2010.

Pursuant to Section 1902(a)(73) of the Social Security Act, the Department proposes to amend its State plan to describe its process for consultation with Connecticut's federally-recognized Indian Tribes. This provision requires the Department to consult with tribal representatives on State Plan Amendments; waiver proposals, extensions, amendments and renewals; and demonstration projects. As part of this process, the Department also consults with the tribes on other Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) matters having a direct impact on tribal health programs. The Department has been consulting with tribal representatives on Medicaid and CHIP matters an ongoing basis for several years; this State Plan amendment will formalize the existing process.

The Department anticipates that this State Plan amendment will have no fiscal impact.

Copies of the proposed changes may be obtained at each of the DSS regional offices and on the DSS web site: www.dss.state.ct.us. Go to "Publications" and then to "News and Updates". For information please contact 860-424-5145.

Written comments may be sent by January 4, 2011 to:

Director of Medical Care Administration
Re: State Plan Amendment for Tribal Consultation
Department of Social Services
Medical Care Administration
25 Sigourney Street, 11th floor
Hartford, CT 06106

State: CONNECTICUT

1.4

State Medical Care Advisory Committee (42 CFR 431.12(b))

There is an advisory committee to the Medicaid agency director on health and medical care services established in accordance with and meeting all the requirements of 42 CFR 431.12.

Tribal Consultation Requirements

The State seeks advice from the two Connecticut federally-recognized tribes, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation and The Mohegan Tribe, through periodic meetings with tribal health representatives and by ongoing written and electronic communications.

The State tribal leads for the HUSKY and CHIP programs meet with tribal representatives at least once annually to update the representatives on developments in the Medicaid and CHIP programs. These meetings include a discussion of program changes, including, but not limited to, waivers, demonstration projects and State Plan amendments.

The process that led to the development of this State Plan Amendment included introductory meetings with tribal representatives in May 2010 to describe the State Plan Amendment process and the tribal consultation requirement. The Department's tribal leads described the Medicaid State Plan Amendment process and discussed the method of consultation and communication that would best serve the tribal representatives' needs. The tribal representatives agreed to an informal process in which the Department sends copies of the public notice for proposed State Plan Amendments to the tribes prior to submission to CMS. The State sends the notices via e-mail. If the State has not received comments or questions concerning the State Plan amendment within two weeks, the State determines that the tribe does not have any questions or concerns regarding the proposed amendment. In addition to this informal consultation process, for State Plan Amendments that may have a unique or particular impact on tribal members, for example, a program or plan change that exempts tribal members from some requirement, the State will also arrange for a meeting or teleconference with the tribal representatives to discuss the proposed change.

TN #: 10-21

Supersedes

TN #: 74-17

Approval Date: _____

Effective Date _____