



INFORMATIONAL MEMO

INFORMATIONAL MEMO NUMBER: 18-009

TITLE: CWA WAIVER ENDING

SUPERSEDES NUMBER: N/A

ISSUE DATE: JULY 2, 2018

EFFECTIVE DATE: JULY 1, 2018

**DIVISION AND OFFICE: BENEFITS AND SERVICES MANAGEMENT DIVISION
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIVING**

PROGRAM AREA: COMMUNITY OPTIONS BENEFIT SECTION

APPROVED BY: CANDACE BAILEY

KEY WORDS: CWA WAIVER

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Purpose and Audience:

The purpose of this Informational Memo is to inform our county partners of the termination of the Children with Autism (CWA) waiver effective July 1, 2018.

Information:

History

In 2015, the Department intended to expand the CWA waiver, which provides behavioral services for children with a diagnosis of Autism, and sought approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Department's federal partners. CMS disapproved this request by the Department. Instead, CMS guided the Department to offer behavioral therapy services as part of Colorado's state plan Medicaid, through the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment benefit (EPSDT).

Since this time, the Department has been collaborating with external stakeholders to develop a phased approach to the termination of the CWA waiver. CMS approved the termination of the CWA waiver effective July 1, 2018. At this time, the multiple phases to ensure waiver members have successfully transitioned to alternative services and programs, will have finished.

Current Considerations

Effective July 1, 2018 CBMS will reflect the termination of the CWA waiver. Waiver members must have transitioned to other programs by July 1, 2018. Our county

partners should evaluate members for other benefit plans such as MAGI or Buy-In. However, if additional Home and Community Based Services are needed by our members, families or other advocates should be directed to speak with their case manager.

It is important to note that communication regarding the termination of this waiver and the availability of alternate services and programs has been ongoing. All waiver members were outreached about this waiver's termination as part of the Department's phased approach to the termination of the CWA waiver.

Department Contact:

Lindsay Westlund

Lindsay.westlund@state.co.us