



## INFORMATIONAL MEMO

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<b>Title:</b> Continuation of Appendix K Flexibilities	<b>Topic:</b> HCBS Benefits
<b>Audience:</b> Members, Stakeholders, Families, Case Managers, Providers	<b>Sub-Topic:</b> Community Connector and Homemaker Services
<b>Supersedes Number:</b> N/A	<b>Division:</b> Benefits and Services Management Division
<b>Effective Date:</b> October 10, 2023	<b>Office:</b> Office of Community Living
<b>Expiration Date:</b> October 10, 2024	<b>Program Area:</b> HCBS Services
<b>Key Words:</b> Community Connector, Homemaker, Appendix K, CES, CHRP	
<b>Legal Authority:</b> N/A	
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<b>Issue Date:</b> October 4, 2023	
<b>Approved By:</b> Bonnie Silva	

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### Purpose and Audience:

The purpose of this Informational Memo is to inform stakeholders of the continuation of flexibilities in Community Connector and Homemaker services within the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Children’s Extensive Supports (CES) waiver and the HCBS Children’s Habilitative Residential Program (CHRP) waiver and the Homemaker services within the CES waiver.

### Information:

In March 2020, The Department of health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF) worked with the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to make temporary changes to selected HCBS to better ensure continuity of services and to mitigate the public health risk in response to the COVID-19 illness. To prevent the spread of COVID-19, HCPF implemented temporary provisions to allow for flexibility in the delivery of services. Within the CES waiver, legally responsible persons, in the case of children, a parent, were allowed to provide Community Connector and Homemaker services. Within the CHRP waiver, legally responsible persons, in the case of children, a parent,

were allowed to provide Community Connector services. Those flexibilities were slated to cease with the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) Appendix K authority on Nov. 11, 2023.

However, HCPF is extending the Appendix K within the CES and CHRP waivers to allow the necessary time to develop the policy to amend the full waivers to make this change permanent. There will not be any changes to the way members access or receive these benefits while under the Appendix K authority.

HCPF will offer opportunities for stakeholder input and listening sessions to discuss the ongoing policy and requirements for full inclusion of these flexibilities into the 1915(c) waiver authorities. Please be on the lookout for communication about opportunities for engagement soon.

**Attachment(s):**

None

**HCPF Contact:**

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