In accordance with 42 CFR 431.408, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) announces its intention to file an 1115 Amendment Application with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) no later than November 1, 2020, requesting Medicaid coverage for SUD services to incarcerated individuals. The changes outlined below will become effective upon CMS approval.

Kentucky is requesting approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for an amendment to its Medicaid Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) 1115 waiver to authorize federal Medicaid matching funds for the provision of SUD treatment to eligible incarcerated individuals. Coverage for these services is requested for persons incarcerated in state and county facilities. Currently, the Department of Corrections provides Substance Abuse Program (SAP) services that are offered to incarcerated individuals. Kentucky wants to enhance and expand these services offered to incarcerated individuals.

The objective of the amendment will be twofold: First, to provide SUD treatment to eligible incarcerated individuals in order to ensure this high risk population receives needed treatment before release, and to strengthen follow up care with a Medicaid provider after release by paying for SUD treatment while incarcerated; and to allow the recipient’s chosen MCO to coordinate aftercare with a Medicaid provider 30 days before release.

Public Comments

Copies of this notice are available on the DMS website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/Pages/default.aspx
Notices are available in the following news publications: Louisville Courier-Journal, Lexington Herald-Leader and the Cincinnati Enquirer.

In addition, DMS will hold 2 Virtual Town hall Meetings on the following dates:
October 12, 2020 at 10:00 AM EST & October 26, 2020 at 2:00 PM EST.

Join Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/95486102544

Join by Phone
+1 929 436 2866 US
Meeting ID: 954 8610 2544

One tap mobile
+13126266799, 95486102544# US
Additional information regarding these proposed actions is available upon request at the address cited below. A copy of this notice is available for public review at the Department for Medicaid Services at the address listed below. Any public review will be subject to public health COVID-19 restrictions and requirements, and staff availability due to the COVID-19 public health pandemic.

Comments or inquiries should be submitted via email received on or before October 30, 2020 to: DMS.ISSUES@ky.gov. Written comments must be postmarked by October 30, 2020 and sent to the address below:

SUD Incarceration Amendment Comment  
c/o DMS Commissioner’s Office  
275 E. Main St. 6W-A  
Frankfort, KY 40621