



# Iowa Department of Human Services

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Terry E. Branstad  
Governor

Kim Reynolds  
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer  
Director

September 3, 2015

Victoria Wachino  
Director  
Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12  
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850  
[victoria.wachino@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:victoria.wachino@cms.hhs.gov)

Re: Request for Amendment of Iowa's §1115 Waiver Demonstration: Iowa Wellness Plan,  
Project #11-W-00289/5

Dear Director Wachino:

The Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) is pleased to submit an amendment request to its Wellness Plan §1115 Waiver Demonstration. Services are currently provided to Demonstration participants through use of primary care provider coordination, Accountable Care Organizations, and managed care models; however, the proposed amendment seeks to establish a managed care delivery system under concurrent §1915(b) authority (submitted separately). Further, the amendment intends to modify eligibility to include those persons at or below 133% FPL that were previously eligible for the §1115 Marketplace Choice Demonstration.

The State has recently submitted a §1915(b) waiver to establish a statewide managed care delivery system for the majority of Iowa Medicaid and waiver beneficiaries, including Demonstration participants. By requiring mandatory enrollment in managed care, the State will be positioned to improve care coordination among providers and incentivize active management of member's healthcare as a whole. Under the new delivery system, MCOs will be responsible for delivering all Demonstration covered benefits in a highly coordinated manner. The system is intended to integrate care and improve quality outcomes and efficiencies.

There are no other proposed changes to Demonstration enrollment, benefits, enrollee rights, cost sharing, evaluation design, sources of nonfederal share of funding, budget neutrality, or other comparable program elements. The requested effective date of this amendment is January 1, 2016, and is conditioned upon approval of the State's §1915(b) waiver to implement the Initiative, beginning January 1, 2016. Thank you again for the opportunity to submit this waiver amendment request. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff on approval. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mikki Stier".

Mikki Stier, MSHA, FACHE  
Medicaid Director

Enclosure: Iowa Wellness Plan (Project #11-W-00289/5) §1115 Demonstration Amendment

cc: Charles M. Palmer, Director  
James G. Scott, CMS Region 7  
Sandra Levels, CMS Region 7  
Deanna Jones, IME  
Liz Matney, IME  
Robert Schlueter, IME  
Jennifer Steenblock, IME