

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Department of Health Care Finance**



Office of the Director

June 6, 2024

Chiquita Brooks-LaSure  
Administrator  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, MD 21244

Re: District of Columbia Section 1115 Medicaid Demonstration Renewal Request

Dear Administrator Brooks-LaSure:

On behalf of the residents of the District of Columbia, I am pleased to submit to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services the enclosed Section 1115 Medicaid demonstration renewal application for approval.

The proposed demonstration renewal will allow the District to continue to use Medicaid funding to reimburse institutions for mental diseases (IMDs) for treatment provided to Medicaid-eligible adults with substance use disorders and serious mental illness, as well as remove cost-sharing requirements for prescriptions associated with medication-assisted treatment (MAT).

Additionally, the proposed demonstration renewal will broaden the focus from behavioral health transformation to address social determinants of health and further improve health outcomes. This includes implementing new Medicaid services for justice-involved individuals up to 90 days pre-release and health-related social needs (HRSN) services, specifically housing supports and nutrition supports. Accordingly, the proposed new name for this demonstration program extension is Whole-Person Care Transformation.

In submitting this demonstration renewal application, the District aims to follow CMS guidance to enable states to improve care transitions for individuals returning to the community from incarceration and cover clinically appropriate and evidence-based services and supports that address HRSNs. The District is appreciative of your leadership to support states in testing innovative service delivery to facilitate successful reentry from incarceration and additional HRSN services to promote coverage and access to care, improve health outcomes, and create cost effective supplements to traditional medical services. With the support of our federal partners at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, we look forward to working together to create a health system that delivers ‘whole-person’ care.

If you have any questions regarding the demonstration renewal request, please contact either Melisa Byrd, Senior Deputy Director and Medicaid Director, Department of Health Care Finance at (202) 442-9075 or [melisa.byrd@dc.gov](mailto:melisa.byrd@dc.gov) or Joe Weissfeld, Director, Health Care Reform and Innovation Administration, Department of Health Care Finance at (202) 442-9090 or [joe.weissfeld@dc.gov](mailto:joe.weissfeld@dc.gov).

Sincerely,



Wayne Turnage  
Deputy Mayor, Health and Human Services, District of Columbia  
Director, District of Columbia Department of Health Care Finance

Cc: Felix Milburn  
Paul Boben  
Terri Fraser  
Jacey Cooper