September 19, 2019

Ms. Cynthia Beane
Commissioner
Bureau for Medical Services
Department of Health and Human Resources
350 Capitol Street, Suite 251
Charleston, West Virginia  25304-3706

Dear Commissioner Beane:

I am pleased to inform you that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approves West Virginia’s request to renew the Mountain Health Trust waiver program (WV-05.R11.00) (Waiver Renewal) which includes the full-risk managed care organization (MCO) program authorized under Section 1915(b) of the Social Security Act (the Act). The State is granted ongoing waivers of Sections 1902(a)(10)(B) (Comparability of Services), and 1902(a)(23) (Freedom of Choice).

After analysis and review of your Waiver Renewal submission, CMS approves your request for the period effective October 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021. Approval of this waiver request is in accordance with the requirement that the program has met statutory and regulatory requirements for access to care and quality of services and will continue to be a cost-effective means of providing health care services to Medicaid beneficiaries residing in West Virginia. As a reminder, CMS should receive any request to renew this waiver no later than April 1, 2021. Please note that CMS requires that “the State document that actual costs claimed on the CMS-64 were used to document the Actual Waiver Costs in Appendix D3.” CMS will continue to work with the State during the upcoming waiver period to assist in the transition of recording data on the CMS-64 forms to ensure consistency and alignment with the reporting requirements for the Waiver Renewal, including data identified in Appendix D. These reporting requirements include the separate identification of net expenditures incurred pursuant to West Virginia’s §1115 Substance Use Disorder Waiver #11-W-00307/3, "Creating a Continuum of Care for Medicaid Enrollees with Substance Use Disorders" (§1115 SUD Waiver) on designated CMS-64 waiver forms. A cost effectiveness amendment may be required to effectuate and support this transition.

The CMS acknowledges that certain services authorized by the §1115 SUD Waiver were transitioned into managed care effective July 1, 2019. These services include assessment, service planning, consultation, support, crisis, behavior management, and residential treatment.
We wish you success in the continued operation of the Mountain Health Trust waiver program. If you have any questions, please contact Mary McKeon in the CMS Philadelphia Regional Office at (215) 861-4181.

Sincerely,

Francis T. McCullough
Director
Division of Medicaid Field Operations East (Philadelphia)