

**Public Notice to Amend Missouri's Gateway to Better Health Section 1115 Demonstration
Project to Add a Substance Use Treatment Benefit Number: 11-W-00250/7**

July 31, 2018

Pursuant to provisions of Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 431.408, which mandate that an application, an extension of an existing demonstration project, or waiver amendment that the State intends to submit to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for review and consideration be published and made available for review and comment, this is to advise that:

1. The State of Missouri, Department of Social Services (DSS), provides notice of the following:

To ensure efficiency, economy, quality of care, and access, the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) provides notice of the intent to amend the Gateway to Better Health Demonstration to add a Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment benefit. The Gateway to Better Health Demonstration is designed to provide coverage to uninsured adults residing in St. Louis City and St. Louis County, who are between the ages of 19 and 64, with family incomes between 0 and 100 percent of the Federal poverty level (FPL), and who do not qualify for Medicaid. The Demonstration is set to expire on December 31, 2022; however, should the State opt to expand Medicaid during the extension period to cover this population, the Demonstration will terminate immediately.

Annually, on average between 2005 and 2010, 9.5 percent or 219,000 people aged 12 or older in the St. Louis Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) were classified as having a SUD. In the entire state of Missouri, this metric was estimated to be 8.9 percent of the population or approximately 433,000 individuals (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2012). According to the Missouri Department of Mental Health, in 2008, the average cost to treat a substance addicted individual was \$1,346, compared to a \$17,300 cost to society not to treat the individual. The SUD treatment benefit would be of great value to the St. Louis City and St. Louis County by expanding access to treatment services and reducing overall costs to society.

The State is requesting authority to extend the benefits for the population covered by the Demonstration to include office visits and certain generic prescriptions for SUD treatment. Diagnoses for which these new services may be available include:

- alcohol related disorders,
- opioid related disorders,
- cannabis related disorders,
- cocaine related disorders,
- inhalant related disorders, and
- hallucinogen related disorders.

Interpretive services are available by calling the Participant Services Unit at 1-800-392-2161.
Prevodilačke usluge su dostupne pozivom odjela koji učestvuje u ovom servisu na broj 1-800-392-2161.
Servicios Intreprative están disponibles llamando a la unidad de servicios de los participantes al 1-800-392-2161.

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An Equal Opportunity Employer, services provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.

The State also proposes to decrease the cap on enrollment in the Demonstration from 21,432 to 15,500. Finally, the State seeks to amend the Demonstration to clarify that it is not expected to claim rebates from manufacturers for drugs purchased through the Demonstration.

2. Comments may be sent by regular mail, express or overnight mail, in person or by courier within thirty days after publication of this notice and must be sent or delivered to the following address:

MO HealthNet Division
615 Howerton Ct., 2nd Floor
Jefferson City, MO 65109
Attention: Sara Davenport

Comments may also be emailed to Ask.MHD@dss.mo.gov. Please use **“Public Comment for Gateway to Better Health Section 1115 Demonstration Project”** in the subject line. Comments must be received by **August 30, 2018**.

3. A copy of the full amendment request under consideration for Gateway to Better Health Section 1115 Demonstration Project to Add a SUD Treatment Benefit Number: 11-W-00250/7 is available for public view by contacting the DSS, MHD at Ask.MHD@dss.mo.gov. These documents may also be viewed online at <https://dss.mo.gov/mhd/waivers/1115-demonstration-waivers/gateway-to-better-health.htm>.

Appointments may be made to view a hard copy of the full public notice document as well as a draft of the amendment application. Appointments may be made during regular business hours 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday, by calling (314) 446-6454, ext. 1032. Appointments to view the documents will take place at 1113 Mississippi Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63104.

CMS offers additional information about Section 1115 waivers generally and the Gateway Waiver specifically at <http://www.medicaid.gov/Medicaid-CHIP-Program-information/BY-Topics/Waivers/Waivers.html>.

4. Public Hearings will be held in person:

Tuesday, August 7, 2018*
7:30 A.M. – 8:30 A.M.
Ethical Society of St. Louis
9001 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63117

Wednesday, August 8, 2018*
3:30 P.M.-4:30 P.M.
Forest Park Visitor and Education Center
Voyagers Room
5595 Grand Drive, St. Louis, MO 63112

**Individuals wanting to participate in the public hearing via conference call may dial 888-808-6929, access code: 9158702.*