

Minutes from
Department of Public Health and Human Services
Montana Medicaid
Plan First Medicaid 1115(a) Family Planning Waiver Renewal
Effective January 1, 2015
WebEx Public Meeting
Wednesday, April 9, 2014 11:00 AM-11:45 PM
Hosted at Riverstone Community Health Center, Bighorn Room, 123 S. 27th St, Billings, MT

Attendees: Martha Stahl from Planned Parenthood of Montana and Elizabeth LeLacheur attended the meeting in person. Jo Thompson and Becky Corbett from Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Kristianne Wilson from Billings Clinic, and Lilia Guillen from Beaverhead County Health Department attended by phone.

11:01 **Welcome and Introductions** - Participants were welcomed and introduced.

11:05 **Review Section on Medicaid 1115 waivers and summary of current Family Planning waiver from “The Montana Medicaid Program, Report to the 2013 Legislature”** - Elizabeth LeLacheur read sections of this document, explaining that waivers are exceptions to standard Medicaid rules published by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The following items were outlined:

- 1115 Waivers are for experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects. If approved by CMS, it can be used to expand eligibility and services can be limited.
- A brief description of the current waiver, in effect through December 31, 2014 was described.
- The document is posted at <http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/planfirst>.

11:08 **Plan First Waiver public notice was read by Elizabeth LeLacheur-**

- The waiver application is submitted by 06/30/2014 for an effective waiver span of 01/01/2015-12/31/2017.
- The current waiver includes about 3,000 women, aged 19-44, able to bear children but not presently pregnant, and not eligible for Medicaid.
- The waiver renewal makes the following changes: increases the household income from 200% to 211% of the federal poverty level; and allows payments for applicants who have health coverage, other than Medicaid, for covered services not fully paid by the other health coverage.
- Waiver Services are limited to family planning services, family planning office visits, contraceptive supplies, sterilization, laboratory services, testing and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and vaccinations to prevent STDS.

- Waiver documents are posted at <http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/planfirst>.

11:13-19 The background, summary and public notice were repeated because someone joined late.

11:20 **Public Comment-Discussion** – Martha Stahl, Planned Parenthood of Montana CEO, commented that she would like to see the waiver cap increased to 6,000 members, services for men added, and waiver services available for women less than 19 years of age. Planned Parenthood Affordable Care Act Navigators have been counselling patients on coverage for the last 6 months, and are recommending Plan First to eligible women. Kristianne Wilson commented that Billings Clinic supports the waiver and sees eligible women who qualify for the Family Planning waiver services. Billings Clinic would like to decrease Medicaid births and improve outcomes for the women. Kristiane also wanted to know if Billings Clinic could help evaluate the effectiveness of the program. Elizabeth LeLacheur explained that DPHHS would welcome data or evaluation ideas. Evaluation data for the waiver application would be available soon. Lilia Guillen did not have any comments. Other DPHHS attendees did not have comments.

11:26 **Closing-** After asking for additional comments, participants were notified that any additional comments are welcome through June 20, 2014 and may be sent to elelacheur@mt.gov, by phone 406-444-6002, or can be submitted in writing at PO Box 202951, Helena, MT 59620. Another public meeting will take place April 14th, at 2 PM at the Cogswell Building in Helena. Adjourn.