

Montana Health Care Programs **MESSENGER**

DDP Home/Community Based Services Waiver Renewal

The Developmental Disabilities Program (DDP) offers services through what is called a Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver. The DDP HCBS waiver is also called the 0208 or Comprehensive waiver. This waiver pays for support services to help people with developmental disabilities live in their homes and communities, instead of an institution.

Waiver services are partly paid by the federal government and partly by the state. A detailed waiver permission request is sent to the federal government for approval. This detailed request explains the kinds of support services the state wants to offer to its DDP population. Once approved, the request needs new approval every 5 years. This is called a waiver renewal.

States may ask for changes in the details of their waiver program sooner than 5 years. If a state chooses to do this, an additional permission request called a waiver amendment is needed.

The DDP's current waiver is expiring July 1, 2023. DDP is working on the renewal and asking for some changes. One change requested is the addition of behavioral services that can increase the quality of life and decrease unsafe behaviors. This could be accomplished by teaching new skills. DDP is also asking permission for parents to receive pay in some cases for providing DDP services for their children if it is above and beyond care that parents normally give. The public is invited to give feedback on the renewal request during the public comment period. You can find more information on the public comment period and the waiver renewal at the [DDP web page](#).



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Does DPHHS have your CORRECT Mailing Address?

In the coming months, DPHHS will need to contact **all** Montana Medicaid and HMK members to begin the cycle of yearly renewals for healthcare coverage qualification. Giving DPHHS your correct mailing address will ensure you receive these important

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No More Premiums!

The Medicaid Expansion / HELP Members will no longer be charged premiums for their coverage after 01/01/2023. Some Expansion / HELP Members were charged premiums in the past (depending on income), but that practice ended effective 01/01/2023.

Free Cancer Screenings for Qualified Women

The **Montana Cancer Program** is offering free local breast and cervical cancer screening services statewide for women who meet income guidelines. To be connected to mammograms and Pap tests in your community, call the program's toll-free number, 1-888-803-9343, or visit the [Cancer Control Program](#) web page.

WIC

[WIC](#) is a USDA-funded program that provides [healthy foods](#) to low-income pregnant and postpartum people, infants, and children up to age five. For 2023, [Montana WIC](#) is adjusting its cash-value benefit (CVB) amounts, which provides money to spend on fruits and vegetables. Members can expect the following increases: \$25/month for child participants, \$44/month for pregnant and postpartum participants, and \$49/month for fully and partially breastfeeding participants.

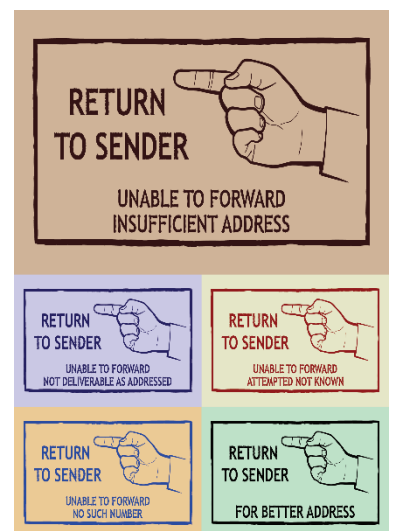
Community Health Data

The new [Montana Community Health Insights](#) dashboard is now available with data about healthy and risky behaviors, births, deaths, hospital discharge, emergency department discharge, and cancer registry data. You can explore trends over time, compare counties, and find more Montana-specific data in the Feature Links and Additional Resources sections. Check back often! New datasets and features will be added regularly to enhance the dashboard. Email [A Healthier Montana](#) with questions about this new tool.

notices. Maintaining your coverage may depend on it!

Choose one of FIVE ways to update or confirm your correct mailing address:

- 1. The fastest way is to go to [apply](#) and follow the directions that appear in red at the top of the page, [OR](#);
- 2. Call the Public Assistance Helpline at **(888) 706-1535**, [OR](#);
- 3. Mail a letter to **DPHHS, P.O. Box 202925, Helena, MT 59620-2925**, [OR](#);
- 4. Fax a letter with the member's name, date of birth, case number if known, social security number, previous address, and new address to the **DPHHS at (877) 418-4533**, [OR](#);
- 5. Go to an [Office of Public Assistance field office](#).





Key Contacts

Medicaid/HMK *Plus* Member Help Line

For questions regarding benefits or Passport to Health:

1-800-362-8312

[MT Healthcare Programs](#)

Montana Relay Service

For the deaf or hard of hearing.

1-800-253-4091 or 711

Montana Public Assistance Help Line

For eligibility questions.

1-888-706-1535

[MT PUBLIC ASSISTANCE](#)

Transportation Center

For questions regarding travel or approval. **Call before
you travel, or you may not be reimbursed.**

1-800-292-7114.