Office of Income Maintenance Updates

OIM

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CHIP Transition to OIM

- The CHIP IT Transition successfully took place over the weekend of April 15-16

- As of April 17, 2023, CHIP eligibility and case management is now handled by the Office of Income Maintenance (OIM), and CHIP is under the Healthcare umbrella alongside Medicaid/Medical Assistance.

- OIM and CHIP continue to meet with the Managed Care Organizations who provide coverage for CHIP eligible children as part of an overall transition effort to ensure questions are being addressed and the transition from CHIP to OIM is seamless to CHIP families.

Visit dhs.pa.gov/CHIPFAQ to learn more.

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Unwinding of Continuous Coverage Background

- During the pandemic, states could receive enhanced federal Medicaid funding if they maintained people's Medicaid coverage.
  - This is known as the continuous coverage requirement
  - CHIP coverage was maintained through pandemic flexibilities

- Since March 2020, DHS has continued to send & process annual renewal paperwork, but cases are generally not closed/disenrolled if people did not respond.

- As of March 2023, 3.6 million people enrolled in Medicaid (or Medical Assistance in PA).

Visit dhs.pa.gov/staycovered for more information.

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Unwinding of Continuous Coverage Background

- Continuous coverage requirement ended March 31. Pre-pandemic renewal processing resumed April 1, 2023.

- Renewals will occur over a 12-month unwinding period – **all maintained Medicaid and CHIP households will have the opportunity to renew. No one will immediately lose coverage.**

- Coverage may be renewed automatically where DHS has recent data on file. Other cases will receive renewal paperwork to complete.

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Unwinding Communications

- Communications began in February to prompt action needed for recipients with renewals with an April renewal date and follow the same pattern of communication every month thereafter throughout the unwinding.

- Recipients will receive communications at approximately 90/60/30 days from their renewal date to inform them of any needed action.

- Outreach will follow every termination of coverage to ensure those that lost coverage through Medicaid of CHIP can be connected to other coverage through Pennie® or have information to be reevaluated to receive coverage within DHS.

- Public communications and advertising has started or is coming soon via social media, radio, and television.

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Unwinding Data

- Unwinding Dashboard
  - Coming soon to reflect baseline data
  - Updated monthly thereafter

- Baseline figures
  - Currently DHS has 1,322,660 individuals in the COVID maintained population (unduplicated)
  - Previously, DHS referred to these individuals in two specific populations
    - COVID Flagged
    - Overdue
  - During the unwinding, these populations are combined and will be referred to as the *total maintained population*

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Dual-Eligibles and the Unwinding

- DHS estimates that about 5,000 MA recipients are eligible for Medicare but are not enrolled.

- Currently, DHS estimates that about 165,000 individuals in the total maintained population have Medicare.

- DHS will be sending a letter to the population of approximately 5,000 MA recipients that are eligible for but not enrolled in Medicare Part A and/or Part B.

- DHS is exploring ways to communicate PA MEDI information to a larger MA population.

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MAWD Unpaid Premiums

- Good Cause for Non-Payment of MAWD Premiums
  - The unwinding OPS memo included a provision for good cause to be granted to MAWD recipients for unpaid premiums from January 2020 to March 2023.
  - Good cause was provided systematically on April 3.
  - Additionally, these individuals will be marked as part of the total maintained population.
- DHS is sending a reminder letter to MAWD recipients reminding them that payment of premiums is needed to maintain their MAWD coverage.
- If you would have otherwise been enrolled in MAWD prior to April 1, 2023 DHS will apply credit for the period for which you would have been eligible.

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Thank you!

To stay informed about the unwinding, visit **dhs.pa.gov/staycovered**

and click on

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