



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES



DIVISION FOR THE AGING

James A. Rothrock, Commissioner

VDA WEEKLY E-MAILING

January 5, 2016

Table of Contents

[ACL News & Information](#)

[NASUAD Weekly Update](#)

[ACL Update: Older Americans Month Theme and Logo Announced](#)

[DARS Issues RFP for Respite Grant Initiative](#)

[Commonwealth Council on Aging 2016 Best Practices Awards](#)

[DARS Better Governance Webinar: Board Development](#)

[Virginia to Submit 1115 Waiver for MLTSS and DSRIP Initiatives](#)

[Virginia Center on Aging Hosts its 30th Annual Legislative Breakfast](#)

ACL News & Information

Here is a link to news & information from the Administration for Community Living (ACL):

<http://www.acl.gov/NewsRoom/NewsInfo/Index.aspx>

NASUAD Weekly Update

Here is a link to the weekly update from NASUAD:

<http://www.nasud.org/newsroom/friday-update>

Note: The web links in this document may change over time. DARS-VDA does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.

1610 Forest Avenue • Suite 100 • Henrico, VA 23229

Office 804.662.9333 • Toll free 800.552.3402 • TTY users dial 711 • Fax 804.662.9354



DIVISION FOR THE AGING
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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Community Living

2016 Older Americans Month Theme and Logo Announced

May is a month of fresh beginnings. Perennials bloom once again, blazing a trail of bright color. Here at the Administration for Community Living (ACL), May is Older American's Month (OAM), a time to celebrate the perennial contributions of older adults to the nation. The 2016 theme is **Blaze a Trail**, and in May we will take the opportunity to raise awareness about issues facing older adults, and highlight the way older Americans are advocating for themselves, their peers, and their communities.

ACL blazed a trail of its own this year by creating an evergreen **OAM logo**. The goal is to create a recognizable brand that can be carried over from one observance to the next, even though specific themes will be chosen each year. The new OAM logo reflects the tone of the month, and ACL's vision, perfectly – people celebrating and helping one another to thrive. And, the blaze-like shape made by the figures seems especially appropriate for OAM 2016.

Join us as we Blaze a Trail by promoting activities, inclusion, and wellness for older Americans. More information on how you can participate in OAM is coming soon!

DARS Issues RFP for Respite Care Initiative

Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations

DARS has issued an RFP for Respite Care Initiative. This is a new competitive solicitation to award the State General Respite Care Initiative Funds.

The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to establish a contract to provide respite care to families or other caregivers who are providing twenty-four (24) hour care to individuals in their home who are sixty (60) years and older or suffering from Alzheimer's disease or related dementia disorders.

The initial term of the contract will be from April 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017, however, the contract may be renewable – see the RFP.

DARS plans to issue awards totaling Six Hundred Eighty-Four Thousand Three Hundred Thirteen (\$684,313.00) Dollars, for the April 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017 term. Individual awards will range from a minimum of Fifteen Thousand (\$15,000.00) Dollars and will not exceed Eighty-Two Thousand Five Hundred



(\$82,500.00) Dollars. The initial award amount will be distributed as follows; 17% of the total initial award amount will be for the time period of April 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016, 66% of the total initial award amount will be for the time period of July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017, and 17% of the total initial award amount will be for the time period of July 1, 2017 – September 30, 2017. Successive annual awards are subject to the availability of funding and will total Four Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand Two Hundred Nine (\$456,209.00) Dollars. Individual awards for the successive annual awards will be for a minimum of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars and will not exceed Fifty-Five Thousand (\$55,500.00) Dollars.

Sealed proposals will be received until **Friday, January 29, 2016, by 5:00 p.m. EST.**

If proposals are mailed, hand delivered, or delivered by express mail, they must be delivered to the Issuing Agency's Purchasing Office at the address shown above. **Hand delivered proposals must be delivered in ample time to allow for security check-in at the front desk and delivery to the Purchasing Office prior to the closing time for the solicitation.** Faxed, electronic or oral proposals will not be accepted.

All inquiries for information should be directed to Elizabeth Prunkl at 804-662-7073 or at Beth.Prunkl@dars.virginia.gov.

The RFP can be obtained from the E-Virginia portal at: www.eVA.virginia.gov. Click on Solicitation/Quick Quotes and Awards. In the Key Word Search field, type in "Respite". The system *may be a little sluggish resulting in webpage access times slightly longer* compared to other websites.

Commonwealth Council on Aging 2016 Best Practices Awards

Amy Marschean, JD, Senior Policy Analyst

The Commonwealth Council on Aging is sponsoring the 2016 Best Practices Award Program funded by Dominion Resources targeted to organizations serving older Virginians and their families. As we struggle to meet the challenges of serving a rapidly aging population during a time of budget cuts and growing demand, we need to share our best practices and applaud our successes. Instructions, nomination forms, and information on previous Best Practices Award Winners are on the Commonwealth Council on Aging's website <http://vda.virginia.gov/council.asp>. Nominations for the 2016 Awards must be received by March 1, 2016.

This is the tenth anniversary of the first Best Practices Award and the Council is pleased to offer monetary awards to the top winners: The first place program will receive \$5,000; second



place, \$3,000; and third place, \$2,000. The Council will also recognize three honorable mention programs.

The awards will be given to innovative programs and services that assist older adults to Age in the Community. This invites an opportunity to recognize creativity in services that foster “Livable Communities” and/or “Home and Community Based Supports” - from transportation to housing, from caregiver support to intergenerational programming. The Council believes the door is wide open for creative best practices.

DARS Better Governance Webinar: Board Development

Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations

The next **DARS Better Governance Webinar** will be on **Board Development**. The webinar will be held on *Thursday, January 21, 2016 at noon*. Some of the topics include:

- Choosing board members (i.e.: expertise, connections, funding, volunteer time, etc.)
- How can a board member best help the organization?
- When is over involvement a hindrance?

The presenter will be [Amy Nisenson](#), a Certified Governance Trainer with BoardSource and Executive Director of The Mary Morton Parsons Foundation. More information about Ms. Nisenson is available by clicking on her name to access the link.

Please register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/660623241523735297>

Virginia to Submit 1115 Waiver for MLTSS and DSRIP Initiatives

Tim Catherman, Director of Aging Operations

See information below on Virginia’s Section 1115 demonstration waiver from Health Management Associates weekly update. The waiver “seeks approval from CMS to implement two initiatives: (1) a Medicaid managed long-term services and supports Program and (2) a Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment program.”

HEALTH MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES
HMA Weekly Roundup

Trends in State Health Policy

..... December 16, 2015



[RFP CALENDAR](#)

[DUAL ELIGIBLES
CALENDAR](#)

[HMA NEWS](#)

Edited by:
Greg Nersessian, CFA
[Email](#)

Andrew Fairgrieve
[Email](#)

Alona Nenko
[Email](#)

THIS WEEK

- **IN FOCUS: VIRGINIA TO SUBMIT 1115 WAIVER FOR MLTSS/DSRIP**
- NEW YORK ANNOUNCES FIDA REFORMS
- MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE TO VOTE ON HEALTH INSURER TAX
- FLORIDA POSTS MLTC WAIVER AMENDMENT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
- OKLAHOMA MEDICAID APPROVES 3 PERCENT RATE REDUCTION
- OREGON APPOINTS COYNER AS NEW MEDICAID DIRECTOR
- UTAH MEDICAID DIRECTOR TO STEP DOWN
- NORTH CAROLINA HEALTH SYSTEMS TO FORM MANAGED CARE ENTITY
- FEDERAL BUDGET DEAL SUSPENDS HEALTH INSURER FEE FOR 2017
- BCBS OF ILLINOIS TO BEGIN SERVING UI HEALTH MEDICAID MEMBERS

The HMA Weekly Roundup will not publish for the next two weeks. We will resume weekly publication on Wednesday, January 6, 2016, with a preview of key Medicaid and legislative issues to watch for in our states in the coming year. HMA and the Weekly Roundup team wish all our readers a happy and safe holiday season!

IN FOCUS

VIRGINIA TO SUBMIT 1115 WAIVER ON MLTSS AND DSRIP INITIATIVES

This week, our *In Focus* section reviews Virginia's Section 1115 demonstration waiver, which is currently posted for stakeholder review and a public comment period. The 1115 waiver seeks approval from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to implement two initiatives: (1) a Medicaid managed long-term services and supports (MLTSS) program; and (2) a Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program. The MLTSS initiative would mandate enrollment in managed care for around 130,000 individuals receiving

LTSS benefits, including enrollees in three of the state's existing 1915(c) home and community based services (HCBS) waivers. Meanwhile, the DSRIP seeks to establish high-performing provider collaborations to provide patient-centered care and explore alternative payment models. The public comment period on the 1115 waiver runs from December 4, 2015, through January 6, 2015. If approved by CMS, the 1115 demonstration will operate from January 2017 through December 2022.

MLTSS Overview

Under the proposed MLTSS program, Virginia will competitively bid contracts for Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) to provide a fully integrated managed care model that includes physical, behavioral, substance use, and LTSS benefits. The program will operate statewide, but will be implemented regionally; as such, it is unclear at this time whether MCOs will contract with the state on a regional basis or a statewide basis. The MLTSS program will include three existing 1915(c) HCBS waivers - the Alzheimer's waiver (57 enrollees), the technology assisted waiver (287 enrollees), and the elderly or disabled with consumer direction waiver (32,386 enrollees). Enrollees on the individuals with an intellectual disability (ID), individual and family developmental disabilities support (DD), and day support (DS) waivers will remain in Medicaid fee-for-service. The estimated enrolled populations include:

- 46,000 dual eligibles who are excluded from enrollment in the state's dual eligible financial alignment demonstration, known as Commonwealth Coordinated Care (CCC);
- 18,000 non-duals in nursing facilities and waivers; and
- 66,000 dual eligibles either enrolled or opted-out of the CCC demonstration (to be transition to MLTSS after the demonstration ends at the end of 2017).

Virginia intends to issue a request for proposals (RFP) to procure MLTSS plans in spring of 2016, with a phased implementation beginning January 2017, pending CMS approval.

DSRIP Overview

Virginia's proposed DSRIP program would provide funding and support for the development of Medicaid provider partnerships into Virginia Integrated Partners (VIPs) that will work with the state's Medicaid MCOs. Virginia's goal for the VIPs is a structure of financial incentives for providers to organize and deliver care of a higher quality for a lower overall cost of care, slowing the rate of Medicaid spending in the state. The number of VIPs in Virginia will be determined by available funding, interest level and commitment.

VIPs will be established through contractual arrangements between public and private Medicaid providers, and will include community supports such as federally qualified health centers and area agencies on aging, as well as care navigators, like community health workers. A VIP will have a coordinating health system, which provides administrative support, oversees contracting relationships, and provides management leadership. MLTSS plans and existing Medicaid 3.0 (Virginia's existing Medicaid managed care program) plans will have a role in DSRIP demonstration as partners with VIPs, with a long-term goal of VIPs and MCOs developing alternative payment arrangements under the DSRIP.

VIPs will select from a menu of DSRIP projects, including:

- System Transformation Projects, focused on development of the VIP model of care, ensuring provider capacity, and better integration and utilization of data;
- Financial Incentive Alignment Projects, focused on transition to value-based and alternative payment models; and
- Clinical Improvement Transformation Projects, focused on initiatives such as integrated behavioral and primary care, emergency department diversions, expanded supported housing and employment supports, and telehealth, among other projects.

Further details on the DSRIP program design and initiatives is available in the proposed 1115 waiver. Virginia anticipates launching the DSRIP initiative in January 2017, pending CMS approval.

Funding and Budget Neutrality

Virginia is requesting a federal investment of \$1 billion over the five-year 1115 waiver period, proposing to leverage a portion of federal savings achieved in recent years, and anticipated savings in coming years, by expanding Medicaid managed care and through LTSS rebalancing. The 1115 waiver assumes savings of 5 percent from the Medallion 3.0 over what would have been spent in FFS, and an increase of individuals receiving LTSS in HCBS settings from 31.5 percent in 2004 to 60.3 percent in 2016. Virginia estimates federal savings from these two efforts at \$2.3 billion from 2004 through 2017, and \$1.7 billion to be achieved from 2018 through 2022. Additionally, the state is currently working to identify designated state health programs (DSHPs) and intergovernmental transfers (IGTs) as non-federal funding sources for the DSRIP effort.

Links to 1115 Waiver, More Information

1115 Waiver Demonstration:

http://dmasva.dmas.virginia.gov/Content_atchs/mltss/PUBLIC%20COMMENTS%20DOCUMENT%20Combined%201115%20Innovation%20Waiver%20Application.pdf

MLTSS website:

http://dmasva.dmas.virginia.gov/Content_pgs/mltss-home.aspx

DSRIP website:

http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/Content_pgs/dsrip.aspx



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Virginia Center on Aging Hosts its 30th Annual Legislative Breakfast

Cecily Slasor, on behalf of Dr. Edward Ansello

The Virginia Center on Aging hosts its 30th Annual Legislative Breakfast, Wednesday, January 27, 2016, at 7:30 a.m. at the St. Paul's Episcopal Church Parish Center (across from the General Assembly Building) in Richmond. Nominal \$15 registration requested. For information or to register, call [804-828-1525](tel:804-828-1525) or eansello@vcu.edu.

The Virginia Center on Aging
at Virginia Commonwealth University
cordially invites you to its 30th Annual Breakfast

Wednesday, January 27, 2016
from 7:30 - 8:45 a.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Parish House
813 E. Grace Street
located opposite the Capitol on the southwest
corner of Ninth and Grace Streets

Nominal registration of \$15.00 made payable to Virginia Center on Aging
RSVP 804/828-1525 or to eansello@vcu.edu by January 22nd

This event is made possible with non-state funds