



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT

**Public Input into Transition Plan for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) for the
Center of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Final Rule of January 2014**

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services is advertising for public comment on the proposed Transition Plan that will be submitted to the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services no later than June 30, 2015.

In January 2014 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule regarding Medicaid-funded home and community based long-term services (HCBS). The rule requires that each state develop a Transition Plan for compliance with the new rule. Rhode Island is planning to submit their Transition Plan on **June 30, 2015**. That plan will propose **June 30, 2019** as the date by which we will be compliant with the new requirements.

The summary of the intent of the Final Rule of January 2014 was to ensure that Medicaid HCBS services are provided to individuals in a setting that is **integrated** and supports full access to the community; is selected by the beneficiary; ensures an **individual's rights** of privacy, dignity and respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint, optimizes autonomy and independence in making **life choices**; **facilitates individual choice** regarding services and supports, and who provides them; and, where possible, the person leads the process of developing his or her service plan.

A public hearing will be held to consider the proposed Transition Plan on **Thursday, April 30, 2015 at 9:00 am at the Hewlett Packard 203 Conference room, 301 Metro Center Blvd., Warwick, RI 02886**. Persons wishing to testify and provide comments at the meeting may do so by signing up at the meeting or by submitting written comment by May 30, 2015, to Thomas G. Martin, Implementation Director, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Louis Pasteur Building # 57, 57 Howard Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920, or via email Tom.martin@ohhs.ri.gov.

A copy of the Transition Plan can be obtained through the following means:

- 1) EOHHS website for Home and Community Based Services.

<http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ReferenceCenter/HomeandCommunityBasedServices.aspx>

Scroll over to the Reference Center there is a clickable headline "Home and Community Based Services". A final version of the Transition Plan will be on the website.

- 2) Request a version by contacting:
Thomas G. Martin
Implementation Director
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Louis Pasteur Bldg. #57, 57 Howard Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920
401-462-2596 **Fax:** 401-462-3677
E-mail: Tom.Martin@ohhs.ri.gov

The public hearing will begin at 9:00 am and will conclude when the last speaker finishes. The seating capacity of Hewlett Packard Conference room will be enforced and therefore the number of persons participating in the hearing may be limited at any given time by the hearing officer, in order to comply with safety and fire codes.

The Hewlett Packard building is accessible to individuals with disabilities. Individuals with hearing impairments may request an interpreter's presence by calling 711 or Relay RI 1-800-745-6575 (Voice) and 1-800-745-555 (TDD). Requests for this service must be made at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to the meeting. What may seem to be a mild fragrance can constitute a toxic exposure for a person with an environmental illness. The Executive Office of Health and Human Services does not discriminate against individuals based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, religious belief, political belief or handicap.

Elizabeth H. Roberts, Secretary
Signed this day of March 2015