

**CARBON-MONROE-PIKE MHDS PROGRAM
HEALTHCHOICES DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT**

September 2021

I. HealthChoices Department

The HealthChoices Department has begun preparations for the anticipated Program Evaluation Process (PEP) that will occur in early 2022. The PEPs are evaluated on a rotating triennial timeline, with a face-to-face PEPs evaluation held once every third year. The process insures that the HealthChoices Program is managed in accordance with the Program Standards established by the state. 2022 will be our fourth, in-person review and we expect no major surprises or issues during the process.

II. Community Care

CMP HC and Community Care continue to hold regular meetings to review program operations, fiscal monitoring, network development, quality and clinical issues. These meetings occur at varying intervals and on an ad hoc basis to insure the HealthChoices program continues to operate successfully in CMP.

Community Care and CMP HealthChoices decided in August that continuing the Alternative Payment Arrangements (APAs) for our network was necessary. Using the established criteria approved by the Department of Human Services (DHS) that was updated in July 2021, we are continuing payments. The extension of the APAs will end on December 31, 2021. We will continue to evaluate the need for this process as we proceed through the fall.

III. Operations Update

Pennsylvania created a variety of waivers for licensing processes across all state Departments during the COVID-19 pandemic. One of the most helpful waivers allowed for broad delivery of telehealth services delivery to meet our Members' needs. However, these waivers are ending on September 30, 2021. DHS worked fervently to create a new Bulletin to address the new telehealth world created by the pandemic waiver process. The updated bulletin was released at the end of August and allows for most services to continue to be delivered via telehealth technology. We are working with DHS to understand all aspects of the bulletin and the waiver process so that we can insure successful transition on October 1st.

Respectfully submitted,

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