

**Comments on Centennial Care 2.0 1115 Demonstration Amendment  
(Comments March 1, 2019 through April 15, 2019)**

*Comments are received from emails and public hearings are included below.*

*Content from letters and attachments are not included here.*

Comments (all via HSD website unless noted otherwise)	Date Submitted	Submitter name, location, and email
<p>I am a mother, student, advocate and social worker who lives and works in the state of New Mexico. I am an advocate for families and children, particularly those living in poverty or in impoverished conditions. It is unethical to create medical premiums and/or co-pays for families who are struggling to provide for their children or other family members and for individuals who are struggling to make ends meet. I recognize the importance of access and availability to community health and benefit services. It is of great importance for the state of New Mexico to help individuals and families thrive and improve their overall health and living conditions. In recognition of this, I am in support of the following amendments:</p> <p>I am in support of these amendments proposed to the federal government for Centennial Care 2.0 Medicaid waiver:</p> <p>I support the removal of co-pays of \$8.00 for non-emergency use of the Emergency room and \$8.00 for non-preferred prescription drugs for individuals and families who use Centennial Care.</p> <p>I support the removal of monthly premiums for adults and medicaid recipients who are living just above the poverty line.</p> <p>I support reinstating retroactive medical coverage back to three months for eligible Medicaid recipients.</p> <p>I support the expansion of the HSD Community Benefit and for HSD to continue to increase the number of slots for members to access community benefit services by 1500.</p> <p>I am in support of these amendments. Please consider the health and wellness of New Mexico communities.</p>	<p>3/22/19</p>	<p>Grace Olivas <a href="mailto:olivas.grace@ymail.com">olivas.grace@ymail.com</a></p>

Letter from NMAHHC	4/1/19	Meggin Lorino <a href="mailto:meggin@nmahc.org">meggin@nmahc.org</a>
Letter from NMHA	4/5/19	Andrea Lohse <a href="mailto:alohse@nmhsc.com">alohse@nmhsc.com</a>
Pegasus Legal Services for Children whole heartedly supports HSD's proposal to not implement co-payments, premiums, the phase out of retroactive coverage. Pegasus also supports HSD's proposal to expand home visiting and community benefits services. The previous Centennial Care 2.0 proposed the addition of premiums and co-pays for our state's poorest residents. If prior changes were implemented they would have a significant negative impact on New Mexico's most vulnerable citizens. Medicaid is designed to cover health insurance for families and individuals who would otherwise not be able to afford health insurance. Any additional burdens on these families and individuals would only drive them deeper into poverty. Forcing New Mexico's most vulnerable citizens to choose between medical care, putting food on the table, and a roof over their children's heads. The increase in home visiting and community benefit services will assist New Mexico families in raising their children.	4/11/19	Mariel Willow <a href="mailto:Mwillow@pegasuslaw.org">Mwillow@pegasuslaw.org</a>
Letter from Taos Pueblo	4/12/19	Ezra Bayles <a href="mailto:EBayles@taospueblo.com">EBayles@taospueblo.com</a>
Letter from DRNM	4/15/19	Tim Gardner <a href="mailto:tgardner@drnm.org">tgardner@drnm.org</a>
Letter from National Multiple Sclerosis Society	4/15/19	Simone Nichols – Segers <a href="mailto:Simone.Nichols-Segers@nmss.org">Simone.Nichols-Segers@nmss.org</a>
Letter from Health Action New Mexico	4/15/19	Colin Baillio <a href="mailto:colin@healthactionnm.org">colin@healthactionnm.org</a>
Letter from Disability Collation	4/15/19	Ellen Pines <a href="mailto:EPinnes@msn.com">EPinnes@msn.com</a>
Letter from Office of Attorney General	4/15/19	Jennie Lusk <a href="mailto:JLusk@nmag.gov">JLusk@nmag.gov</a>
Letter from Senior Link	4/15/19	Jennifer P. Crosbie <a href="mailto:jcrosbie@seniorlink.com">jcrosbie@seniorlink.com</a>
Letter from New Mexico Center for Law and Poverty	4/15/19	William Townley <a href="mailto:william@nmpovertylaw.org">william@nmpovertylaw.org</a>

Letter from Cochiti Pueblo	4/15/19	Antoinette Bird <a href="mailto:antoinette.bird@cochiti.org">antoinette.bird@cochiti.org</a>
<b>Comments from April 15, 2019 MAC Meeting</b>		
Supports all amendments set forth. Copayments and premiums: we stand and support the provisions that would be considered detrimental to low income families. As well as anything that would cause the lose of thousands of New Mexicans. Retro active eligibility: it protects families as a vital safety net as well as insures that providers are compensated for services provided. Home Visiting: we are in support of expansion of this pilot. we would love to see that is it done in areas of high need in the state of NM. Many counties that are not currently selected have demonstrated need of early childhood intervention now being set forth. This is an opponent for a pilot to really study the infrastructure and staffing needs in those areas to ensure those families are receiving services that are known to provide an outcome for the health and education. Every home is provided a comfortable home visiting service is something this state should look to do. This program is overseeing through the oversight of home visiting providers as well as stake holders and early childhood.	4/15/19	William Towney NM Center Law and Poverty
Thank you for implementing these changes. A firm believer that copays are designed to be a ... of very good care, so getting rid of those is a really good move. Charging a ten dollar premium or so for folks that are almost poverty level, doesn't make any sense in terms of administration. The changes are very positive.	4/15/19	Dale Tinker NM Pharmacy Association
Submitted letter via email 4/15 in support of all March 1st, 2019 amendments and we thank you for those. Waiver slot expansion: people with MS are diagnosed in-between ages 20-50 and women are diagnosed more often then men. 60% of MS clients leave the work force within 10 years and that is due to disability and disease progression. MS impacts in cognition and also the physical aspects. Nursing homes are not appropriate for people between the ages 20-50. Because of the really long wait list, we have families living in these homes to get on Medicaid quicker, which allows them to get the waiver at home. Some individuals with MS are living at home without any home care support without any personal care. Their caregivers are children of the individual, or the parents, which puts everyone at risk. Its also impacts the employment of the spouse and	4/15/19	Vickie Knowal National MS Society

<p>their ability to work while caring for this individual. Opening up more slots allows more access to life changing and lifesaving services. Cost share and premiums: Copays really add up. So if you are living with MS you are not only getting prescriptions, you are going to PT, OT, multiple doctor visits. Any payment of any kind per month for the low moderate income individuals makes it so these individuals don't go to their appointments.</p>		
<p>Applaud HSD and GOV office for not only these waiver amendments but also to rescind the harmful provisions including the premiums, copays and changes to retro active coverage and also using it as an opportunity to improve upon the waiver with the changes to the home visiting as well as the community benefits. it is great to look at the evidence in all these programs and the changes that were proposed, and adopted and moved towards the ones that were supported by the evidence. Appreciate, HSD was fighting for the Medicaid budget and advocating for the beneficiaries for the program. Question: Folks that did incur medical costs in results of the MCO changes, that have been put into effect retro active coverage since January 1, if they would be held harmless if the amendment gets accepted.</p>	4/15/19	Colin Baillio Health Action NM
<p>Stand in support of all amendment changes. The dept really has the health and the best interest of kids and families in mind. Feels very different. The legislative session shows it is very different and the proposed changes also show a new direction. Very excited and very grateful for that.</p>	4/15/19	Bill Jordan Voices for Jordan
<p>Commend the dept in terms of what they are doing in child health. Home visiting: Was an article in 2016 called Home Visiting and use of Infant Health Care.</p>	4/15/19	Carolyn Montoya College of Nursing
<p>Supports and shows gratitude of all the amendments. 65 % of of SBHC are run by federally qualified health centers and are often in the position to absorb the cost of health care for confidential visits in the BH and reproductive health. If these centers would have been in the position to absorb the cost of these copays for these visits, it could have killed the SBHC in the state. Very excited for these amendments. Excited for the new expansion.</p>	4/15/19	Nancy Rodriguez NM Alliance for School Based Health Care
<p>While the waiver was being developed there were sub-committees of the MAC committee on different topics. Cost share: The committee voted not to have any cost sharing in the waiver and that advice of by the sub-committee was ignored. Thank you for reversing that decision.</p>	4/15/19	Ruth Hoffman LAM-NM

Supports all five amendments for the CC Waiver. Thanks Gov. for signing bills into law that will increase access into Medicaid and other insurance coverage for members with disabilities example HB 323 HB436. Wants to encourage the department to review and address the steady decline in the average utilization of personal care services and some other long term benefits under CC. Encourage the dept on an on-going basis post it, publicize the data about utilization with the long term services. Encourage the dept to solicited advice from the committee.	4/15/19	Jim Jackson Disability Rights NM
Written comments submitted. Copays and retro active eligibility: These put a particular administrative burden and a cost on hospitals that are sometimes standing in a situation that are having to not have the copays paid and having to eat that cost. As well as being able to provide the retroactive care.	4/15/19	Jeff Dye Disability Rights NM
Supports all amendments. Care Coordination at the NFLOC level care in the home. There seems to be difficulty for participants outside of MCOs that the interaction with the CC and the subscribers. Not enough training on the MCO side and lack of follow ups. Echo Jim Jacksons comment about MAC members.	4/15/19	Nat Dean Disability Advocate
Echo comments that have been made. Supports the amendments.	4/15/19	Eileen Goode
Support the elimination of premiums.	4/15/19	Hyde & Associations