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SECRETARY

January 24, 2025

Statewide Medicaid Managed Care (SMMC) Policy Transmittal: 2025-04

Applicable to the **2018-2024 SMMC contract benefits** for:

- Managed Medical Assistance (MMA) and MMA Specialty
- Long-Term Care (LTC)
- Dental

Re: Update to PT 2023-23: Ad Hoc Request for Periodically Updated Individualized Transition Plan for Nursing Facility Children – Reporting Requirements

An Order of Injunction (Document 1171) regarding federal case number 12-60460-CV-MIDDLEBROOKS/Hunt was issued July 14, 2023. The injunction requires an individualized transition plan be completed for all “Nursing Facility (NF) Children” between August 1, 2023, and September 1, 2023. The injunction also requires that the State must “periodically reinitiate the Transition Planning Process so that the Transition Plan is updated at least once every three months and must ensure that any new circumstances or considerations relevant to transition are reflected in the update.” **On September 4, 2024, an Order Modifying Injunction (attached to this Policy Transmittal) was issued that impacts the required frequency of the transition planning process for nursing facility children.**

Per this Policy Transmittal and the Modified Order of Injunction, NF Child is defined as “individuals who live in Nursing Facilities, have Complex Medical Needs, and either (1) are under 30 years of age and began living in a Nursing Facility before reaching 21 years of age, or (2) are under 21 years of age. A NF Child who is hospitalized remains, during the period of hospitalization, a NF Child.”

Effective immediately, the Managed Care Plan must periodically reinitiate the Transition Planning Process to update the Transition Plan and to ensure that the update reflects any new circumstances or considerations relevant to transition. The Managed Care Plan must reinitiate the Transition Planning Process at least once every three months until the NF Child's parent or guardian has participated in the Transition Planning Process at least twice. Beginning with the second Transition Planning Process in which the parent or guardian participates, the following transition plan frequency requirements apply:

1. If the parent or guardian selects the following placement option for his or her NF Child, then the Managed Care Plan must initiate the next Transition Planning Process within three months: "I want my child to come home or move to a community setting."



2. If the parent or guardian selects the following placement option for his or her NF Child, then the Care Coordinator must ask the parent or guardian whether the parent or guardian prefers the Transition Planning Process to be reinitiated within every three months or six months: "I want my child to stay in a nursing facility at this time, but I want to overcome identified barriers so my child can come home or transition."
3. If the parent or guardian selects the following placement option for his or her NF Child, then the Care Coordinator must ask the parent or guardian whether the parent or guardian prefers the Transition Planning Process to be reinitiated within every three months, six months, nine months, or twelve months: "I want my child to stay in a nursing facility and oppose my child living at home or in a community setting."
4. If the parent or guardian did not participate in the Transition Planning Process and has never expressed a preference regarding the frequency of the Transition Planning Process, then the State must initiate the next Transition Planning Process for the NF Child within three months (or within six months if the parent or guardian declined to participate in-or agreed to participate but did not participate in the two most recent Transition Planning Processes).

If scenarios 2 or 3 above is utilized for the Transition Planning Process frequency, then the Care Coordinator must contemporaneously document the parent's or guardian's expressed preference and make clear to the parent or guardian that the parent or guardian may change his or her preference at any time for any reason. The Managed Care Plan must reinitiate the Transition Planning Process within the period selected by the parent or guardian, until the parent or guardian expresses a different preference.

For each updated individualized Transition Plan completed during the calendar year quarter, the managed care plan must submit the updated individualized Transition Plans by the fifteenth of the month after the end of the calendar year quarter to the Agency's SMMC_CY24-30(port 4485) secure file transfer protocol (SFTP) site in the AdHoc/MIDDLEBROOKS-Hunt (DOJ)/Transition Plan subfolder located within the Managed Care Plan's designated folder path. The Managed Care Plan must use the file naming convention "XXXyyyymmUTPAB##", where "XXX" is the Managed Care Plan's three-character identifier, "yyyymm" corresponds to the four-digit year and two-digit month of the submission, "UTP" is the three-character identifier for this report, "AB" is the first and last initial of the enrollee, and "##" is the last two digits of the enrollee's Medicaid ID number.

If an individualized Transition plan has not been updated within the calendar year quarter, the Managed Care Plan shall submit supporting documentation that explains why they

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were unable to complete the plan for that quarter. A new attempt to complete an individualized transition plan must occur every three months.

All subsequent updated individualized Transition Plans shall be submitted to the Agency by the fifteenth of the month following the calendar year reporting quarter.

If you have any questions, please contact your Agency contract manager.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Meyer".

Brian Meyer
Deputy Secretary for Medicaid

BM/jp

Attachment 1: 1227 Order on Proposed Modifications
Attachment 2: 1228 Order Modifying Injunction