

Outline of Vermont Global Commitment to Health

Section 1115(a) Medicaid Waiver

Global Commitment to Health is a Section 1115(a) demonstration waiver built on the premise that health coverage needs to be comprehensive and continuous.

Funding from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will take the form of a block grant, adjusted forward, with coverage for Medicaid populations capitated for 5 years.

The Vermont Agency of Human Services (AHS) will contract with the Office of Vermont Health Access (OVHA), which will serve as a publicly sponsored managed care organization to directly administer programs or deliver services through interdepartmental agreements or contracts.

Under Global Commitment to Health, Vermont will:

- Provide federally mandated Medicaid populations the core package of mandated Title XIX services.
- Continue eligibility and current benefits for persons currently enrolled in Medicaid, subject to available funding.
- Consider subsidies for individuals with low incomes eligible for employer-sponsored health insurance.
- Consider health savings accounts based on mandatory minimum beneficiary contributions and state contributions and partnered with high-deductible health insurance.
- Consider pharmacy benefit plans to supplement or add coverage, with cost sharing and other incentives to control costs and wrap around services for persons enrolled in Medicaid who receive Medicare Part D benefits.
- Consider innovations in the delivery and reimbursement of mental health services, including early intervention services and services to rural populations and persons under correctional custody.
- Continue to provide services for persons who are elderly or disabled under current Medicaid waivers, seek to maintain and reinforce home and community-based services, consider cost-effective reforms in the delivery of institutional care, continue initiatives in services for persons with physical disabilities and will evaluate incentives for the purchase of long-term care insurance.
- Continue to provide home and community-based services for persons with developmental disabilities in a manner similar to the present system while exploring opportunities for enhancing existing caregiver respite programs.
- Consider multiple projects aimed at implementing statewide initiatives in care for persons with chronic conditions and diseases.
- Consider other public health initiatives, including tobacco control and “Fit and Healthy Kids, new substance abuse initiatives to facilitate early access to services and treatment for persons with co-occurring disorders and streamlined and appropriate funding for school-based health and may evaluate the eligibility and assessment processes for services from the Department of Children and Families.

