



Division of Long Term Services and Supports

October 4, 2018

Dave Richard
Deputy Secretary of Medical Assistance
Division of Medical Assistance
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
2501 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699

Dear Mr. Richard:

We are writing to inform you that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving North Carolina's request to amend its Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, the Innovations Waiver, CMS control number 0423.R02. This amendment has been assigned control number 0423.R02.05.

With this amendment, the state is requesting to add an Emergency Preparedness and Response Appendix K in order to:

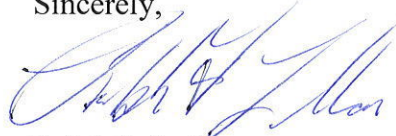
- Temporarily exceed service limits for Personal Care, Home Modifications, Assistive Technology, Equipment and Supplies, Vehicle Modifications, Participant Goods and Services, and Respite when necessitated by the hurricane and/or resultant flooding,
- Temporarily Expand settings where waiver services are provided,
- Temporarily modify provider qualifications to allow out-of-state entities and relatives residing in the same home to provide services,
- Temporarily waive individual cost limits for services
- Temporarily remove requirement to use waiver services in order to retain eligibility when unable to access them due to the disaster,
- Temporarily modify timeframes for Level of Care determinations, and Person-Centered Service Plan development by up to three months,
- Temporarily allow for payment of services in an acute hospital or short-term institutional stay when necessary supports for the individual are not available in that setting,
- Temporarily waive monthly face-to-face coordinator/beneficiary meetings for those receiving residential supports, new to waiver or have a relative as their provider. Quarterly face-to-face visits may be temporarily waived on a case by case basis,
- Temporarily allow retainer payments to direct care workers up the amount specified to work in the person-centered service plan.

The changes the state has requested in this amendment are effective from September 7, 2018 through December 29, 2018 and apply statewide for anyone impacted by Hurricane Florence and its flooding.

We have included the approved Appendix K pages with this correspondence. Please utilize the waiver management system for HCBS waivers for any further amendments to this waiver program

other than Appendix K. If you need assistance, feel free to contact Dianne Kayala of my staff at (410) 786-3417 or by e-mail at Dianne.Kayala@cms.hhs.gov or Alice Hogan in the Atlanta Regional Office at (404) 562-7432 or by e-mail at Alice.Hogan@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ralph F. Lollar".

Ralph F. Lollar
Director

c: Shantrina Roberts, CMS Atlanta RO ARA
Melanie Bush, Deputy Director, DHHS, Division of Health Benefits