



MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF
MEDICAID

**Mississippi 1915(c) Elderly and Disabled (E & D) Waiver
Renewal**

Public Comments:

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

I would like to say that letting a family member of a Medicaid recipient be their worker can be a good thing due to the shortage of available workers. I also think it can be a bad situation when the worker takes advantage of their relative and does not perform the duties they are there to provide. I have heard complaints from Medicaid recipients about their family member not cleaning for them but they don't want them to know because they don't want them to lose their job. Maybe this will be explained to family members who are providing these services that they will be held accountable for the work they provide for all clients especially a family member.

Irene Keller



MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS

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March 28, 2023

Mr. Drew Snyder
Executive Director
Mississippi Division of Medicaid
550 High Street, Suite 1000
Jackson, MS 39201

Dear Mr. Snyder:

In response to your request for public comment on the submission of a Medicaid 1915 (c) Elderly and Disabled Waiver renewal, the Planning and Development Districts (PDDs) of Mississippi support the Division of Medicaid's restriction on family members as caretakers. Through our experience, there is more oversight and better standards of care when this service is provided by a non-family member. The PDDs strongly support the proposed change away from family-provided services to non-family provided services. Historically, we have found that vulnerable recipients of family-provided services are reluctant to report substandard care because the perception is that they are telling on a family member. The better option is non-family provided services.

Additionally, the PDDs support the allowance of case management monthly visits by telephone only in emergency situations. Without seeing the client face-to-face, case managers are not able to observe changes in a client or their living environment. Also, in-person monthly visits allow case managers to observe changes in persons residing in the home of the client which might not otherwise be disclosed through a phone call. While the PDDs recognize that telephonic visits were beneficial during the height of the public health emergency, face-to-face visits certainly provide more critical information needed by case managers to ensure the best quality of service to clients.

If you have questions or comments, please contact Amy E. Smith at 601-981-1511 or via e-mail at mail@mspdds.com.

Sincerely,

Rudy Johnson
President