

North Carolina Medicaid Managed Care Transformation as of 4/1/23: Implications for Children/Youth Served by the Child Welfare System

A Reference Guide for DSS County Child Welfare Workers

Care Management for Children & Youth Served by the Child Welfare System

Most children and youth served by the child welfare system will continue to receive care management as they do today; children ages 0 – 3 will be eligible to receive Tailored Care Management as of 4/1.



CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE



CHILDREN RECEIVING ADOPTION ASSISTANCE



FORMER FOSTER YOUTH UNDER AGE 26

Not Tailored Care Management-Eligible

These children and youth will continue to receive **care coordination/care management through CCNC or CMARC.***

+ Tailored Care Management-Eligible

These children and youth will receive **Tailored Care Management through an LME/MCO. ****

*Individuals receiving Tailored Care Management may not receive CMARC as the services are considered duplicative.

** Some children and youth may receive Tailored Care Management through provider-based care management.

Individuals eligible for Tailored Care Management include those with a serious mental illness (SMI), a serious emotional disturbance (SED), a severe SUD, an I/DD, or those who are receiving services for a TBI

Overview of **CCNC** and **CMARC** for Children/Youth Served by the Child Welfare System

CCNC Eligibility

- Children/youth who are not Tailored Care Management eligible and are:
 - Ages 0 – 5 prescribed medication;
 - Ages 0 – 5 identified as high-risk*; or
 - Ages 5 +

Functions

- **CCNC serves as lead** coordinating physical health, behavioral health, and unmet health-related resource needs with DSS
- **CCNC works with LME/MCO** to coordinate the delivery of behavioral health services
- **LME/MCO supports coordination of BH services** at request of CCNC or DSS Child Welfare Worker and assigns care coordinator to member at DSS caseworker request

CMARC Eligibility

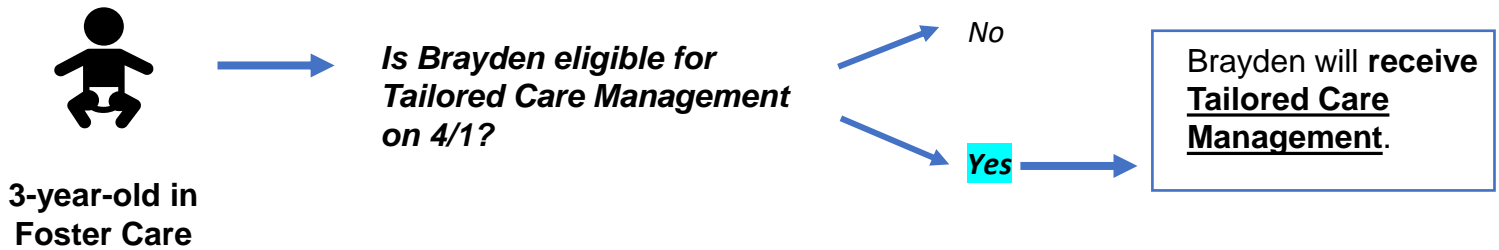
- Children/youth who are not Tailored Care Management eligible and are:
 - Ages 0 – 5 with special health care needs (except for those prescribed medication or identified as high-risk)

Functions

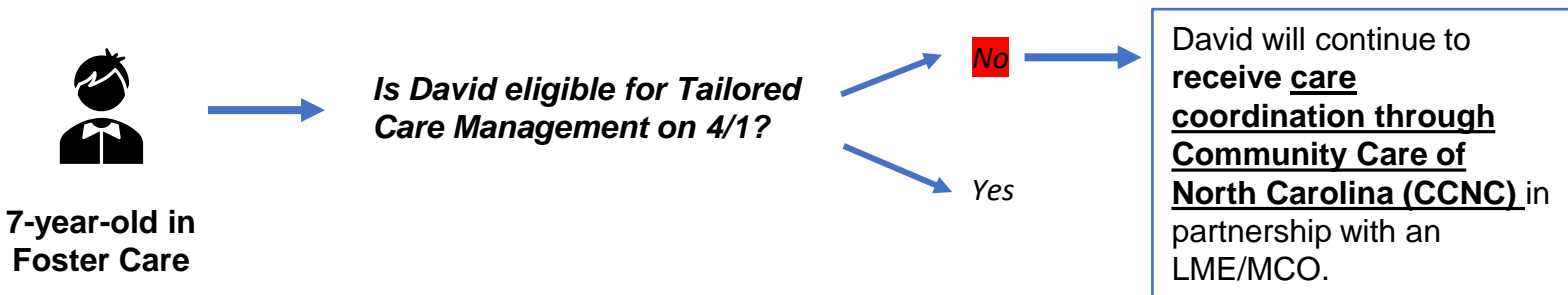
- **Local Health Departments (LHDs) serves as lead** in providing a suite of care management services in coordination with primary care providers and social services organizations
- If a child has complex medical needs, the CCNC care manager will collaborate with CMARC to provide development supports and service assistance

Scenarios

Brayden is 3-years-old and in foster care. Brayden has a traumatic brain injury.



David is 7-years-old and in foster care; he has no known behavioral health concerns.



Since 12/1, LME/MCOs have been sending assignment letters to individuals who become eligible for the Tailored Care Management.

- **Assignment letters are sent to a member's Authorized Representative(s)** as identified in the member's 834-eligibility file, a standard Medicaid enrollment file.
- Depending on each individual circumstance, **the Authorized Representative may be the County DSS Director, DSS County Child Welfare Worker, or other individual (e.g., foster or kinship parent).**
- **The LME/MCO will send assignment letters** to the Authorized Representative of any **member who enters foster care after April 1, 2023 who is Tailored Care Management eligible.**

Members or their legal guardians can choose a different Tailored Care Management provider or choose to opt out of Tailored Care Management

All Tailored Care Management eligible members are given **three choices**:

- **keep** their assigned Tailored Care Management provider,
- request to **change** their Tailored Care Management provider, or
- **opt out** of Tailored Care Management.

If a member or their legal guardian chooses to change their Tailored Care Management provider or opt out Tailored Care Management, they should contact their LME/MCO.