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Date: December 23, 2014

To: LME-MCOs

From: Mabel McGlothlen, LME System Performance Team Leader, DMH/DD/SAS, and Deb Goda, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Manager, DMA

Subject: HCBS Rule

The Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) published the final rule on Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) provided through Medicaid's 1915 (c) HCBS waiver program. The intent is to enhance the quality of HCBS, to provide additional protections to waiver participants and ensure full access to the benefits of community living.

Information on this rule can be found via the following links:

<http://www.medicaid.gov/Medicaid-CHIP-Program-Information/By-Topics/Long-Term-Services-and-Supports/Home-and-Community-Based-Services/Home-and-Community-Based-Services.html>

<http://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid-chip-program-information/by-topics/long-term-services-and-supports/home-and-community-based-services/downloads/exploratory-questions-non-residential.pdf>

The State will ensure full compliance with the HCBS rule as outlined in a transition plan which will be submitted for CMS approval by 3/16/2015. The State is currently developing this plan with the input of participants, families, providers, organizations, and LME-MCOs. We will also be partnering with you on listening tours and planning session.

In an effort to ensure on-going communication, a dedicated web portal will be established and will serve as one of the primary modes of communication throughout the waiver's planning and implementation.

If you have additional questions or comments, please contact **Monica Hamlin** at monica.hamlin@dhhs.nc.gov or **Mya Williams** at mya.williams@dhhs.nc.gov .

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