1115 Waiver Update

Shreya Arakere, Waiver Manager, Division of Community Advocacy & Intergovernmental Relations (DCAIR)
Section 1115 of the Social Security Act

- Allows states flexibility to design Demonstration projects that promote the objectives of the Medicaid program

- Demonstration projects are typically approved for a five year period and can be renewed every five years

- Must be budget neutral meaning that federal spending under the waiver cannot exceed what it would have been in absence of the waiver
Arizona’s Demonstration Renewal

- Arizona’s current waiver is scheduled to expire September 30, 2021
- Waiver renewal request must be submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) one year in advance
- Due to the pandemic, CMS granted AHCCCS a three-month extension to submit the waiver renewal application by December 31, 2020
Arizona’s 1115 Waiver Renewal

Oct. 2 - Nov. 30, 2020
Public Comment Period
Waiver Public Forum Meeting #1:
October 14, 2020
Waiver Public Forum Meeting #2:
October 16, 2020
Special Tribal Consultation:
October 19, 2020
State Medicaid Advisory Committee (SMAC) Meeting:
October 21, 2020
Waiver Public Forum Meeting #3:
November 13, 2020

Oct. 2, 2020
AHCCCS to post draft of the 1115 Waiver

2020

Dec. 22, 2020
AHCCCS submitted 1115 Waiver application to CMS

Oct. 1, 2021
Anticipated GO LIVE date of 1115 Waiver

2021
1115 Demonstration Waiver Renewal

- Initiatives to Be Continued
  - Managed care
  - Home and community based services
  - Targeted Investments Program
  - AHCCCS Works
  - Waiver of prior quarter coverage for certain populations
1115 Demonstration Waiver Renewal

- **New Initiatives**
  - Verbal consent in lieu of written signature for up to 30 days for care and treatment documentation for ALTCS members
  - Reimbursement for traditional healing services (renewed request)
  - Reimbursement for adult dental services eligible for 100% federal financial participation provided by IHS and Tribal 638 facilities
    - Exceeding the $1,000 emergency dental limit for adult members and the $1,000 dental limit for individuals age 21 or older enrolled in the ALTCS program
Public Comments Summary

• Request to discontinue AHCCCS Works & Prior Quarter Coverage Waiver
• Support for traditional healing services & tribal dental benefit
• Support for retaining authority to make uncompensated care payments to IHS and 638 facilities
Public Comments Summary

• Support to continue ALTCS verbal consent authority beyond the termination of the PHE
• Support for TI Program 2.0, including funding for participating CBOs
• Request for waiver expenditure authority to reimburse for whole person care services, such as housing & food
Next Steps for 1115 Waiver Renewal Process

• The federal public comment period is open through February 3, 2021 for Arizona’s Waiver Renewal Application

• AHCCCS will negotiate special terms and conditions of Arizona’s Waiver with CMS throughout 2021

• AHCCCS is currently developing TI Program Concept Paper
Questions?