

Public Comment Sought for the State of Alabama Independent Living Waiver Renewal Application

The Alabama Medicaid Agency is seeking public comment on its proposal to renew the State of Alabama Independent Living (SAIL) Waiver. The SAIL Waiver provides Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) to disabled adults and those who have specific medical diagnoses. Examples of the specific medical diagnoses include, but are not limited to: Quadriplegia, Traumatic Brain Injury, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Multiple Sclerosis, Spinal Muscular Atrophy, Muscular Dystrophy, Severe Cerebral Palsy, Stroke and other substantial neurological impairments, severely debilitating diseases or rare genetic diseases. The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services serves as the Operating Agency for the SAIL Waiver.

HCBS Waivers provide an alternative to the comprehensive long-term care services delivered in institutional settings by waiving certain Medicaid provisions and allowing these services to be delivered in community settings. HCBS services are provided to protect the health, safety, and dignity of those individuals who are at risk of institutional care.

The proposed SAIL Waiver renewal application does not consist of any significant changes to the program other than to demonstrate compliance to the new HCB setting requirements and incorporate person-centered planning. These changes are being made in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Final Rule #CMS-2249-F and 2296-F.

A copy of the proposed SAIL Waiver renewal application can be found on the Alabama Medicaid Agency website, www.medicaid.alabama.gov. **Click here.**

Written comments on the SAIL Waiver renewal application will be received from March 5, 2015 through April 5, 2015. Individuals must send their comments to Mattie Jackson, Program Manager via mail to: Alabama Medicaid Agency, Long Term Care Division, P.O. Box 5624, Montgomery, Alabama 36103-5624 **or** by submission via e-mail to mattie.jackson@medicaid.alabama.gov.