## **MEMORANDUM**

JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

To: Joint Fiscal Committee members

From: Sorsha Anderson, Senior Staff Associate

Date: November 23, 2022

Subject: Limited-Service Position(s) Request – JFO #3127

Enclosed please find one (1) item, which the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the Administration.

JFO Request #3127: Four (4) limited-service positions to the Vermont Agency of Human Services, Department of Mental Health to help manage the influx of additional funding for the Home and Community-Based Services Initiative. Business Project Manager, to coordinate all efforts; Mental Health Analyst III to meet data compilation, analysis and reporting requirements; and DMH Care Manage, and Mental Health Children's Care Manager needed to implement conflict-free case management. Positions are funded under the Medicaid HCBS FMAP Spending Plan and covered through March 31, 2025.

[Received November 14, 2022]

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Sorsha Anderson: sanderson@leg.state.vt.us) if you have questions or would like this item held for legislative review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by December 9, 2022, we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of this request.

PHONE: (802) 828-2295

FAX: (802) 828-2483



State of Vermont

Department of Mental Health 280 State Drive, NOB 2 North Waterbury, VT 05671-2010 http://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/ Agency of Human Services

[phone] 802-241-0090 [fax] 802-241-0100 [tty] 800-253-0191

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

**Joint Fiscal Committee members** 

FROM:

Emily Hawes, Commissioner, Department of Mental Health (DMH)

CC:

Agency of Human Services (AHS) Secretary's Office

DATE:

**September 16, 2022** 

RE:

**Request for Limited-Service Positions** 

#### Dear JFO Committee members:

Please review this request packet for the creations of four limited-service positions for DMH. All positions have been allocated funds from the Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) to support activities that are supported by this same funding source. The position term lengths align with the allowable expenditure period of these funds, 3/31/2025. We have included all supporting documentation with the intent to ease an expedited review. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or need for further clarification.

DMH is requesting the following four (4) positions:

1. Job Title: Business Project Manager

Existing Class: 085250

Pay Grade: 26

Funding Source: Medicaid; HCBS-FMAP

2. **Job Title:** MH Analyst III **Existing Class:** 488600

Pay Grade: 25

Funding Source: Medicaid; HCBS-FMAP

3. Job Title: DMH Care Manager [Adult]

Existing Class: 512900

Pay Grade: 26

Funding Source: Medicaid; HCBS-FMAP
4. Job Title: Children's MH Care Manager

Existing Class: 511900

Pay Grade: 25

Funding Source: Medicaid; HCBS-FMAP

Respectfully submitted,





## STATE OF VERMONT Joint Fiscal Committee Review Limited Service - Grant Funded Position Request Form

This form is to be used by agencies and departments when additional grant funded positions are being requested. Review and approval by the Department of Human Resources <u>must</u> be obtained <u>prior to</u> review by the Department of Finance and Management. The Department of Finance will forward requests to the Joint Fiscal Office for JFC review. A Request for Classification Review Form (RFR) and an updated organizational chart showing to whom the new position(s) would report <u>must</u> be attached to this form. Please attach additional pages as necessary to provide enough detail.

	Agency/Department: Agency of Human Services / Department of Mental Health Date: 09/12/2022				
	Name and Phone (of the person completing this request):				
	Request is for:  Positions funded and attached to a new grant.  Positions funded and attached to an existing grant approved by JFO #				
	1. Name of Granting Agency, Title of Grant, Grant Funding Detail (attach grant documents):				
	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS); Medicaid Home and Community Based (HCBS) opportunity from Section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021; enhanced federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP). Attached is the latest approval letter.				
2. List below titles, number of positions in each title, program area, and limited service end date (information should be based on grant award and should match information provided on the RFR) position(s) will be established only after JFC final approval:					
	Title* of Position(s) Requested # of Positions Division/Program Grant Funding Period/Anticipated End Date				
	Business Project Manager 1 Operations 3/31/2025 Staffing activities are covered under MH Analyst III 1 Research & Statistics 3/31/2025 Section 3(e) of the DMH Care Manager 1 Adult Care Management 3/31/2025 HCBS FMAP Spending Plan Children's Care Manager 1 Child/Adol/Family Unit 3/31/2025				
	*Final determination of title and pay grade to be made by the Department of Human Resources Classification Division upon submission and review of Request for Classification Review.				
	3. Justification for this request as an essential grant program need:				
	Given the influx of additional funding for additional home- and community-based services (HCBS) initiatives, additional positions are needed to support and coordinate the work. The Project Manager will be necessary to coordinate all efforts, facilitate progress, and ensure all items are tracked and reported on effectively. The MH Analyst is needed in order to be able to meet the added data compilation, analysis, and reporting requirements for HCBS projects. The care managers are needed to initiate the implementation of the conflict-free case management. The State will be required to review all HCBS program admissions for eligibility.				
	I certify that this information is correct and that necessary funding, space and equipment for the above position(s) are				
	Town W. Druloz 9/27/2022 Emily Hawes 9/16/2022				
	Signature of Agency or Depastment Headinee Date				
/	Aimee Pope Date: 2022.09.29 07:37:08 -04'00'				
	Approved/Danied by Department of Human Resources Greshin Date: 2022.10.20 14.19.1004/00'  Date: 2022.10.20				
	Approved/Denied Douglas Farrulam :ment Date 10724/2022				
	Approved/Denied by Secretary of Administration  Date				
/	Approved/Denied by Governor (required as amended by 2019 Leg. Session)				
	Comments:				
	DHR = 08/12/2				

DHR - 08/12/2019

DocuSign Envelope ID: AD7D206B-D276-47BC-81ED-A4CB74558D4E

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12 Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



## Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group

July 15, 2022

Andrea DeLaBruere Commissioner State of Vermont Agency of Human Services Office of the Secretary 280 State Drive Waterbury, VT 05671

#### Dear Commissioner DeLaBruere:

We are pleased to inform you that Vermont's federal fiscal year 2022 quarter 4 spending plan and narrative continue to meet the requirements set forth in the May 13, 2021, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) State Medicaid Director Letter (SMDL) # 21-003 and SMDL # 22-002. Vermont can begin implementing all of the activities in the spending plan and narrative and qualifies for a temporary 10 percentage point increase to the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for certain Medicaid expenditures for home and community-based services (HCBS) under section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). We have approved the temporary 10 percentage point increase to the state's FMAP for certain Medicaid HCBS listed in Appendix B of SMDL #21-003. The increased FMAP is available for qualifying expenditures between April 1, 2021, and March 31, 2022.

Full approval of the spending plan and narrative is conditioned upon the state's continued compliance with program requirements as stated in SMDL #21-003 and SMDL # 22-002. These requirements are in effect as of April 1, 2021, and continue until March 31, 2025, or until the state has fully expended the funds attributable to the increased FMAP, whichever comes first.

It is important to note that CMS approval of the spending plan and narrative solely addresses the state's compliance with the applicable requirements set forth under section 9817 and fulfillment of the requirements as stated in SMDL # 21-003 and SMDL # 22-002. This spending plan approval does not constitute approval for purposes of claiming federal financial participation (FFP). Approval of any activity in your state's spending plan does not provide approval to claim FFP for any expenditures that are not eligible for FFP. States must continue to comply with all existing federal requirements for allowable claims, including documenting expenditures and draws to ensure a clear audit trail for the use of federal funds reported on the Form CMS-37 Medicaid Program Budget Report and the Form CMS-64, Quarterly Medicaid Statement of Expenditures.

States should follow the applicable rules and processes for section 1915(c) waivers, other Medicaid HCBS authorities, including state plan amendments and section 1115 demonstrations, and other managed care authorities (as applicable), if they are making changes to an HCBS program and intend to use state funds equivalent to the funds attributable to the increased FMAP

### Page 2 – Andrea DeLaBruere

to pay the state share of the costs associated with those changes. CMS is available to provide continued technical assistance to states when implementing changes to HCBS programs under this provision. Furthermore, states should follow the applicable rules and processes for claiming FFP for Medicaid administrative costs, including, if necessary, updating the state's Public Assistance Cost Allocation Plan to reference methodologies, claiming mechanisms, interagency agreements, and other relevant issues that will be used when claiming and appropriately allocating costs.

## **General Considerations**

As part of this approval, CMS is noting the following:

- CMS expects your state to notify CMS as soon as possible if your state's activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under ARP section 9817:
  - O Are focused on services other than those listed in Appendix B or that could be listed in Appendix B (e.g., behavioral health services that are covered under another benefit but could be covered under the rehabilitative services benefit). If any activities are not directly related to the services listed in Appendix B or services that could be listed in Appendix B, please explain how those activities enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under Medicaid;
  - Are focused on services delivered in Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD) or other institutional settings, providers delivering services in IMDs or other institutional settings, or other activities implemented in IMDs or other institutional settings (which CMS would not find to be a permissible use of funds, unless the state can demonstrate that the activity supports institutional diversion or community transition or otherwise supports the intent of ARP section 9817);
  - o Include room and board (which CMS would not find to be a permissible use of funds); and/or
  - o Include activities other than those listed in Appendices C and D.

CMS will need additional information before it can determine whether any of those activities or uses of funds are approvable under ARP section 9817.

- HCBS provider pay increases funded through the 10 percent temporary increased FMAP will require an updated rate methodology. For section 1915(c) waiver programs, states are required to submit a waiver amendment for any rate methodology change. If retrospective approval will be required, the state should make the change in the Appendix K application.
- Consistent with regulations at 42 C.F.R. § 447.252(b), the state plan methodology must specify comprehensively the methods and standards used by the agency to set payment rates. The state plan methodology must be comprehensive enough to determine the required level of payment and the FFP to allow interested parties to understand the rate setting process and the items and services that are paid through these rates. Claims for federal matching funds cannot be based upon estimates or projections. The reimbursement methodology must be based upon actual historical utilization and actual trend factors.
- States providing HCBS through a managed care delivery system must comply with applicable federal requirements, including 42 C.F.R. part 438. States must also ensure that appropriate authority is granted for the services and activities to be covered as well as to deliver such services and activities through a managed care delivery system. Additionally, states will need to assess implications for its managed care plan contracts and actuarially

### Page 3 – Andrea DeLaBruere

sound capitation rates in order to operationalize any programmatic changes. States that seek to contractually require their managed care plans to increase HCBS provider payments must adhere to federal requirements for state directed payments in accordance with 42 C.F.R. § 438.6(c), including prior approval as required. CMS is available to provide technical assistance to states related to these requirements.

- If your state is reducing reliance on a specific type of facility-based or congregate service and increasing beneficiary access to services that are more integrated into the community, your state should be clear with stakeholders in your state's stakeholder engagement activities, as well as in submissions to CMS of required ARP section 9817 spending plans and narratives and any resulting waiver or state plan amendments, about how these changes enhance the availability of integrated services in the specific waiver or state plan, and offset any reductions in previously covered services, in compliance with the home and community-based settings criteria or other efforts to increase community integration.
- Please note that, if your state is reducing or eliminating a waiting list for a section 1915(c) waiver program as part of the state's activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under ARP section 9817, the state cannot use the funds attributable to the increased FMAP to pay for approved capacity as of April 1, 2021. The state must increase the Factor C to establish additional waiver slots and can only use the funds attributable to the increased FMAP to pay for services for individuals who are newly enrolled in the waiver program directly as a result of the increase in Factor C.

CMS is also clarifying that, if your state increases the number of section 1915(c) waiver slots and enrolls additional individuals who are not already Medicaid eligible into the waiver program as a result, the state will have an increase in non-HCBS Medicaid expenditures as a result of the increase in waiver program enrollment. In this situation, the state can use the funds attributable to the increased FMAP to pay for community-based Medicaid expenditures, including community-based state plan services not listed in Appendix B, for individuals who become Medicaid eligible because of the state increase in the number of waiver slots as part of a state's activities to expand, enhance, or strengthen HCBS under ARP section 9817. However, your state cannot use the funds attributable to the increased FMAP to pay for institutional services for those individuals, as this would be inconsistent with the intent of ARP section 9817. Your state should clearly indicate in the spending plan and narrative if the state is using the funds attributable to the increased FMAP to pay for community-based state plan services not listed in Appendix B for individuals who become Medicaid eligible because of the increase in the number of waiver slots.

## Other Information Related to the State's Spending Plan and Narrative Submissions

Effective June 3, 2022, states are only required to submit an HCBS spending <u>narrative</u> semi-annually (every other quarter), rather than quarterly; HCBS spending narratives are due 75 days before the start of every other federal fiscal quarter until the state's funds in an amount equivalent to the enhanced FMAP received by the state have been expended. The next HCBS spending narrative is due 75 days before the quarter beginning October 1, 2022 (federal fiscal year 2023 quarter 1). Please note the frequency for submitting the HCBS spending plan is not changing. States must continue to submit an HCBS spending plan 75 days prior to the beginning

### Page 4 – Andrea DeLaBruere

of each federal fiscal quarter until the state's funds in an amount equivalent to the enhanced FMAP received by the state have been expended.

Vermont's next spending plan and narrative are due July 18, 2022. Please refer to SMDL #  $\underline{21-003}$  and SMDL #  $\underline{22-002}$  for information on the reporting process.

Your state's spending narrative submissions should:

- Describe how the state intends to sustain the activities it is implementing to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under the Medicaid program including how the state intends to sustain its planned provider payment increases;
- Provide information on the amount or percentage of any rate increase or additional payment per provider and the specific Medicaid authorities under which the state will be making those rate changes or payments, if applicable;
- Clearly indicate if your state has or will be requesting approval for a change to an HCBS program and be specific about which HCBS program, which authority it operates under, and when you plan to request the change;
- Clearly indicate whether your state plans to pay for capital investments or ongoing internet connectivity costs as part of any activity to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS. Capital investments and ongoing internet connectivity costs are permissible uses of funds to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under section 9817 of the ARP. However, states must demonstrate how capital investments and ongoing internet connectivity costs would enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS and ensure that capital investments will result in settings that are fully compliant with the home and community-based settings criteria. Further, approval of capital investments and ongoing internet connectivity costs in ARP section 9817 spending plans and narratives does not authorize such activities for FFP;
- Provide updated information (as appropriate) on the status and details of the state's proposed activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS; and
- Make other revisions needed to: update or modify the state's planned activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS; and report on the state's progress in implementing its planned activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS.

Your state's spending plan submissions should:

- Provide projected and actual spending amounts for each of the state's planned activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS. In those projections, clearly identify if the state intends to draw down FFP for any activities, as well as the amount of state and federal share for any activities for which the state plans to claim FFP and whether those activities will be eligible for the HCBS increased FMAP under ARP section 9817;
- Update the amount of funds attributable to the increase in FMAP that the state has claimed and/or anticipates claiming between April 1, 2021, and March 31, 2022; and
- Update anticipated and/or actual expenditures for the state's activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under the state Medicaid program between April 1, 2021, and March 31, 2025.

We extend our congratulations on this approval and look forward to working with you further throughout the implementation of ARP section 9817. Programmatic and financial questions and

## Page 5 – Andrea DeLaBruere

spending plan and narrative questions for section 9817 of the ARP can be submitted to HCBSincreasedFMAP@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Bowdoin

Director, Division of Community Systems Transformation

cc: Wendy Trafton

RFR Form C October 2003

## VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL

Request for Classification Action New or Vacant Positions Existing Job Class/Titles ONLY Position Description Form C

>	This form is to be used by management to request the allocation of a new position, or reallocation of a vacant position, to an EXISTING class title.
>	Employee requests must be submitted on the separate "Position Description Form A."
>	Requests for full classification, to determine the appropriate pay grade for any job class must be submitted on "Position Description Form A."
>	This form was designed in Microsoft Word to download and complete on your computer. This is a form-protected document, so information can only be entered in the shaded areas of the form.
>	To move from field to field use your mouse, the arrow keys or press Tab. Each form field has a limited number of characters. Use your mouse or the spacebar to mark and unmark a checkbox.
>	Where additional space is needed to respond to a question, you will need to attach a separate page, and number the responses to correspond with the numbers of the questions on the form. Please contact your Personnel Officer if you have difficulty completing the form.
>	All sections of this form are required to be completed unless otherwise stated.
>	The form <u>must be complete</u> , including required attachments and signatures or it will be returned to the department's personnel office.

Position authorized by:

b.

# Request for Classification Action New or Vacant Positions EXISTING Job Class/Title ONLY

## **Position Description Form C/Notice of Action**

For Department of Personnel Use Only Date Received (Stamp) Notice of Action #\_\_\_\_ Action Taken: \_\_\_\_\_ New Job Title Current Class Code \_\_\_\_\_ New Class Code \_\_\_\_\_ Current Pay Grade \_\_\_\_\_ New Pay Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Current Mgt Level\_\_\_\_ B/U \_\_\_ OT Cat. \_\_\_\_EEO Cat. \_\_\_FLSA \_\_\_\_ New Mgt Level \_\_\_\_\_ B/U \_\_\_OT Cat. \_\_\_EEO Cat. \_\_\_FLSA \_\_\_\_ Classification Analyst\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_ Effective Date: Comments: Date Processed: \_\_\_\_\_ Knowledge & Skills: \_\_\_\_ Mental Demands: \_\_\_\_ Accountability: \_\_\_\_ Willis Rating/Components: Working Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \_\_\_\_ Position Information: Incumbent: Vacant or New Position Position Number: Current Job/Class Title: Children's MH Care Manager Agency/Department/Unit: AHS/DMH/CAFU GUC: Pay Group: Work Station: WSOC - NOB 2 North Zip Code: 05671 Position Type: Permanent \( \) Limited Service (end date ) \( 3/31/2025 \) Funding Source: Core Sponsored Partnership. For Partnership positions provide the funding breakdown (% General Fund, % Federal, etc.) Supervisor's Name, Title and Phone Number: Dana Robson, CAFU Operations Chief, 802-585-4115 Check the type of request (new or vacant position) and complete the appropriate section.  $\boxtimes$ **New Position(s):** REQUIRED: Allocation requested: Existing Class Code 511900 Existing Job/Class Title: Children's MH Care Manager

levels? Yes ☐ No⊠

Request for Classification Action Position Description Form C Page 2 Approval Date: Legislature – Provide statutory citation (e.g. Act XX, Section XXX(x), XXXX session) Other (explain) -- Provide statutory citation if appropriate. Vacant Position: a. Position Number: b. Date position became vacant: c. Current Job/Class Code: Current Job/Class Title: d. REQUIRED: Requested (existing) Job/Class Code: Requested (existing) Job/Class Title: e. Are there any other changes to this position; for example: change of supervisor, GUC, work station? Yes \( \square\) No \( \square\) If Yes, please provide detailed information:\( \) For All Requests: List the anticipated job duties and expectations; include all major job duties: Conflict-free case management (CFCM) requires that assessment and coordination of services are separate from the delivery of services, with the goal to limit any conscious or unconscious bias a care manager or agency may have, and ultimately promote the individual's choice and independence. The different regulations surrounding CFCM and conflicts of interest require the restructuring of long term services and supports (LTSS) delivery so that a single agency is not both assessing what services an individual needs and then providing those services to them. The job duties of this position will closely align with the current duties of the DMH Care Managers in this, but with a focus on providing conflict-free services, which is an HCBS requirement. This position will need to review all HCBS Children's program admissions for eligibility. This position will help the Department establish protocols and procedures. 2. Provide a brief justification/explanation of this request: Conflict-free case management and conflict of interest definitions are codified in four federal policy initiatives: The Balancing Incentive Program within The Affordable Care Act (ACA); Community First Choice (CFC) within the ACA; Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Final Rule (CMS 2249F) and The Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act. This limited-service position will be able to assist with implementation and establishment of CFCM at the Department, which will need to be expanded on a permanent basis in the future once established. This position will work in collaboration with the DMH [Adult] Care Manager working on CFCM. 3. If the position will be supervisory, please list the names and titles of all classified employees reporting to this position (this information should be identified on the organizational chart as well). N/A Personnel Administrator's Section: 4. If the requested class title is part of a job series or career ladder, will the position be recruited at different

Request for Classification Action Position Description Form C

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Appointing Authority or Authorized Representative Signature (required)*	Date
Emily Hawes 	9/16/2022
DocuSigned by:	
Supervisor's Signature (required)*	Date
Dana Kolson AE848926DD504E3	9/16/2022
Personnel Administrator's Signature (required)*	Date
Tammie Ellison  646D99E86SDE4AS	9/19/2022
☑ Other supporting documentation such as memos regarding department explanation regarding the need to reallocate a vacancy (if appropriate).	ent reorganization, or further
☑ For new positions, include copies of the language authorizing the po- that would help us better understand the program, the need for the posit	tion, etc.
Class specification (optional).	
igotimes Organizational charts are <b>required</b> and must indicate where the posi	ition reports.
Attachments:	
8. Will this change (new position added/change to vacant position) affect other organization? (For example, will this have an impact on the supervisor's managed uties be shifted within the unit requiring review of other positions; or are there classification process.)	gement level designation; will
7. How many other positions are allocated to the requested class title in the de	partment:
6. Who should be contacted if there are questions about this position (provide r	name and phone number): Le
5. The name and title of the person who completed this form: Lee Dorf, DMH [ & Development.]	Director of Operations, Flamilin

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Attach additional information or comments if appropriate.

RFR Form C October 2003

## **VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL**

Request for Classification Action
New or Vacant Positions
Existing Job Class/Titles ONLY
Position Description Form C

>	This form is to be used by management to request the allocation of a new position, or reallocation of a vacant position, to an EXISTING class title.
	Employee requests must be submitted on the separate "Position Description Form A."
>	Requests for full classification, to determine the appropriate pay grade for any job class must be submitted on "Position Description Form A."
>	This form was designed in Microsoft Word to download and complete on your computer. This is a form-protected document, so information can only be entered in the shaded areas of the form.
>	To move from field to field use your mouse, the arrow keys or press Tab. Each form field has a limited number of characters. Use your mouse or the spacebar to mark and unmark a checkbox.
>	Where additional space is needed to respond to a question, you will need to attach a separate page, and number the responses to correspond with the numbers of the questions on the form. Please contact your Personnel Officer if you have difficulty completing the form.
	All sections of this form are required to be completed unless otherwise stated.
>	The form <u>must be complete</u> , including required attachments and signatures or it will be returned to the department's personnel office.

a.

b.

DMH Care Manager

Position authorized by:

## Request for Classification Action New or Vacant Positions EXISTING Job Class/Title ONLY

## **Position Description Form C/Notice of Action**

For Department of Personnel Use Only Date Received (Stamp) Notice of Action #\_\_\_\_\_ Action Taken: \_\_\_\_\_ New Job Title Current Class Code \_\_\_\_\_ New Class Code \_\_\_\_\_ New Pay Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Current Pay Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Current Mgt Level\_\_\_\_ B/U \_\_\_ OT Cat. \_\_\_\_EEO Cat. \_\_\_\_FLSA \_\_\_\_ New Mgt Level \_\_\_\_\_ B/U \_\_\_OT Cat. \_\_\_EEO Cat. \_\_\_FLSA \_\_\_\_ Classification Analyst\_\_\_\_\_\_Date \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date: Comments: Date Processed: \_\_\_\_\_ Willis Rating/Components: Knowledge & Skills: \_\_\_\_\_ Mental Demands: \_\_\_\_ Accountability: \_\_\_\_ Working Conditions: Total: **Position Information:** Incumbent: Vacant or New Position Position Number: Current Job/Class Title: DMH Care Manager Agency/Department/Unit: AHS/DMH/Adult Care Managerment GUC: Pay Group: Work Station: WSOC - NOB 2 North Zip Code: 05671 Position Type: Permanent X Limited Service (end date ) 3/31/2025 Funding Source: Core Sponsored Partnership. For Partnership positions provide the funding breakdown (% General Fund, % Federal, etc.) Supervisor's Name, Title and Phone Number: Alexandra Nerenberg, Care Management Director, 802-505-5702 Check the type of request (new or vacant position) and complete the appropriate section.  $\boxtimes$ New Position(s):

REQUIRED: Allocation requested: Existing Class Code 512900 Existing Job/Class Title:

levels? Yes ☐ No⊠

Request for Classification Action Position Description Form C Page 2 Approval Date: Legislature – Provide statutory citation (e.g. Act XX, Section XXX(x), XXXX session) Other (explain) -- Provide statutory citation if appropriate. **Vacant Position:**  a. Position Number: b. Date position became vacant: c. Current Job/Class Code: Current Job/Class Title: d. REQUIRED: Requested (existing) Job/Class Code: Requested (existing) Job/Class Title: e. Are there any other changes to this position; for example: change of supervisor, GUC, work station? Yes \(\subseteq\) No \(\subseteq\) If Yes, please provide detailed information: For All Requests: List the anticipated job duties and expectations; include all major job duties: Conflict-free case management (CFCM) requires that assessment and coordination of services are separate from the delivery of services, with the goal to limit any conscious or unconscious bias a care manager or agency may have, and ultimately promote the individual's choice and independence. The different regulations surrounding CFCM and conflicts of interest require the restructuring of long term services and supports (LTSS) delivery so that a single agency is not both assessing what services an individual needs and then providing those services to them. The job duties of this position will closely align with the current duties of the DMH Care Managers in this, but with a focus on providing conflict-free services, which is an HCBS requirement. This position will need to review all HCBS Adult program admissions for eligibility. This position will help the Department establish protocols and procedures. 2. Provide a brief justification/explanation of this request: Conflict-free case management and conflict of interest definitions are codified in four federal policy initiatives: The Balancing Incentive Program within The Affordable Care Act (ACA); Community First Choice (CFC) within the ACA; Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Final Rule (CMS 2249F) and The Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act. This limited-service position will be able to assist with implementation and establishment of CFCM at the Department, which will need to be expanded on a permanent basis in the future once established. This position will work in collaboration with the Children's Mental Health Care Manager working on CFCM. 3. If the position will be supervisory, please list the names and titles of all classified employees reporting to this position (this information should be identified on the organizational chart as well). N/A Personnel Administrator's Section: 4. If the requested class title is part of a job series or career ladder, will the position be recruited at different

Request for Classification Action Position Description Form C

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5. The name and title of the person who completed this form: Lee Dorf, DMH & Development.	Director of Operations, Planning
6. Who should be contacted if there are questions about this position (provide Dorf, 802-585-0885	name and phone number): Lee
7. How many other positions are allocated to the requested class title in the d	epartment:
8. Will this change (new position added/change to vacant position) affect othe organization? (For example, will this have an impact on the supervisor's manaduties be shifted within the unit requiring review of other positions; or are there classification process.)	agement level designation; will
Attachments:	
Organizational charts are required and must indicate where the po-	sition reports.
Class specification (optional).	
For new positions, include copies of the language authorizing the pathat would help us better understand the program, the need for the pos	
Other supporting documentation such as memos regarding departr explanation regarding the need to reallocate a vacancy (if appropriate)	
DocuSigned by:	
Tammie Ellison	9/19/2022
Personnel Administrator's Signature (required)*	Date
DocuSigned by:	
Samantha Sweet	9/16/2022
Supervisor's Signature (required)*	Date
DocuSigned by:	
Emily Hawes _cs0275615A82462	9/16/2022
Appointing Authority or Authorized Representative Signature (required)*	Date Date

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Attach additional information or comments if appropriate.

RFR Form C October 2003

## VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL

Request for Classification Action New or Vacant Positions Existing Job Class/Titles ONLY Position Description Form C

<b>\</b>	This form is to be used by management to request the allocation of a new position, or reallocation of a vacant position, to an EXISTING class title.
<b>A</b>	Employee requests must be submitted on the separate "Position Description Form A."
>	Requests for full classification, to determine the appropriate pay grade for any job class must be submitted on "Position Description Form A."
>	This form was designed in Microsoft Word to download and complete on your computer. This is a form-protected document, so information can only be entered in the shaded areas of the form.
>	To move from field to field use your mouse, the arrow keys or press Tab. Each form field has a limited number of characters. Use your mouse or the spacebar to mark and unmark a checkbox.
<b>&gt;</b>	Where additional space is needed to respond to a question, you will need to attach a separate page, and number the responses to correspond with the numbers of the questions on the form. Please contact your Personnel Officer if you have difficulty completing the form.
	All sections of this form are required to be completed unless otherwise stated.
>	The form <u>must be complete</u> , including required attachments and signatures or it will be returned to the department's personnel office.

Position authorized by:

b.

# Request for Classification Action New or Vacant Positions EXISTING Job Class/Title ONLY

## **Position Description Form C/Notice of Action**

For Department of Personnel Use Only Date Received (Stamp) Notice of Action #\_\_\_\_\_ Action Taken: \_\_\_\_\_\_ New Job Title Current Class Code \_\_\_\_\_ New Class Code \_\_\_\_\_ New Pay Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Current Pay Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Current Mgt Level\_\_\_\_ B/U \_\_\_ OT Cat. \_\_\_\_EEO Cat. \_\_\_\_FLSA \_\_\_\_ New Mgt Level \_\_\_\_\_ B/U \_\_\_OT Cat. \_\_\_EEO Cat. \_\_\_FLSA \_\_\_\_ Classification Analyst\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_Date \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Comments: Date Processed: \_\_\_\_\_ Knowledge & Skills: \_\_\_\_\_ Mental Demands: \_\_\_\_ Accountability: \_\_\_\_ Willis Rating/Components: Working Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \_\_\_\_ **Position Information:** Incumbent: Vacant or New Position Position Number: Current Job/Class Title: MH Analyst III Agency/Department/Unit: AHS/DMH/Research and Stats GUC: Pay Group: Work Station: WSOC - NOB 2 North Zip Code: 05671 Position Type: Permanent Limited Service (end date ) 3/31/2025 Funding Source: Core Sponsored Partnership. For Partnership positions provide the funding breakdown (% General Fund, % Federal, etc.) Supervisor's Name, Title and Phone Number: Sheila Leno, Reseach and Statistics Chief, 802-241-0135 Check the type of request (new or vacant position) and complete the appropriate section.  $\boxtimes$ New Position(s): REQUIRED: Allocation requested: Existing Class Code 488600 Existing Job/Class Title: MH a. Analyst III

	Request for Classification Action Position Description Form C
	☐ Joint Fiscal Office – JFO # Approval Date: Page 2
	Legislature – Provide statutory citation (e.g. Act XX, Section XXX(x), XXXX session)
	Other (explain) Provide statutory citation if appropriate.
	Vacant Position:
	a. Position Number:
	b. Date position became vacant:
	c. Current Job/Class Code: Current Job/Class Title:
	d. REQUIRED: Requested (existing) Job/Class Code: Requested (existing) Job/Class Title:
	e. Are there any other changes to this position; for example: change of supervisor, GUC, work station? Yes   No   If Yes, please provide detailed information:
For Al	I Requests:
progra statisti methor genera long te implem perforr other a and oth guide p	the anticipated job duties and expectations; include all major job duties: Research, statistical and mevaluation work at a professional level for the Department of Mental Health involving complex cal analyses and service systems research. Duties include selection of advanced statistical dology and database development. Work is performed at both the systems and policy levels, under the all supervision of an administrative superior. Monitors effectiveness of intervention in terms short and term treatment outcomes and costs. Selects statistical methods for analysis of data. Develops and ments program evaluation criteria, techniques, and data needs. Prepares formal reports on program mance across regions and over time. Prepares clear and concise reports, report cards, policy briefs, and assessment documents. Provides consultation to program managers, service providers, stakeholders her interested parties on presentation and interpretation of data. Translates data into information to policy and program decisions. Represents the department on critical strategic and policy issues related that health data systems.
initiativ	vide a brief justification/explanation of this request: The additional workload of the HCBS programs and res will require an increased capactiy in the Research & Statistic team to track and report on related data at the same with the same as well as maintain compliance with CMS reporting needs.
	e position will be supervisory, please list the names and titles of all classified employees reporting to this n (this information should be identified on the organizational chart as well). N/A
Persor	nnel Administrator's Section:
	e requested class title is part of a job series or career ladder, will the position be recruited at different Yes $\boxtimes$ No $\square$
	name and title of the person who completed this form: Lee Dorf, DMH Director of Operations, Planning

	Page 3			
6. Who should be contacted if there are questions about this position (provid Dorf, 802-585-0885				
7. How many other positions are allocated to the requested class title in the	7. How many other positions are allocated to the requested class title in the department:			
8. Will this change (new position added/change to vacant position) affect oth organization? (For example, will this have an impact on the supervisor's mar duties be shifted within the unit requiring review of other positions; or are ther classification process.)	nagement level designation; will			
Attachments:				
☑ Organizational charts are <b>required</b> and must indicate where the po	osition reports.			
Class specification (optional).				
For new positions, include copies of the language authorizing the position, or any other information that would help us better understand the program, the need for the position, etc.				
$\square$ Other supporting documentation such as memos regarding department reorganization, or further explanation regarding the need to reallocate a vacancy (if appropriate).				
DocuSigned by:				
tammic Ellison	9/19/2022			
Personnel Administrator's Signature (required)*	Date			
— DocuSigned by:				
Sheila leno	9/16/2022			
Supervisor's Signature (required)*	Date			
— DocuSigned by:				
Emily Hawes C50275815A62482	9/16/2022			
Appointing Authority or Authorized Representative Signature (required)*	Date			

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Attach additional information or comments if appropriate.

RFR Form C October 2003

## **VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL**

Request for Classification Action
New or Vacant Positions
Existing Job Class/Titles ONLY
Position Description Form C

>	This form is to be used by management to request the allocation of a new position, or reallocation of a vacant position, to an EXISTING class title.
>	Employee requests must be submitted on the separate "Position Description Form A."
>	Requests for full classification, to determine the appropriate pay grade for any job class must be submitted on "Position Description Form A."
>	This form was designed in Microsoft Word to download and complete on your computer. This is a form-protected document, so information can only be entered in the shaded areas of the form.
>	To move from field to field use your mouse, the arrow keys or press Tab. Each form field has a limited number of characters. Use your mouse or the spacebar to mark and unmark a checkbox.
>	Where additional space is needed to respond to a question, you will need to attach a separate page, and number the responses to correspond with the numbers of the questions on the form. Please contact your Personnel Officer if you have difficulty completing the form.
>	All sections of this form are required to be completed unless otherwise stated.
>	The form <u>must be complete</u> , including required attachments and signatures or it will be returned to the department's personnel office.

## Request for Classification Action New or Vacant Positions EXISTING Job Class/Title ONLY

## **Position Description Form C/Notice of Action**

For Department of Personnel Use Only Date Received (Stamp) Notice of Action #\_\_\_\_\_ Action Taken: New Job Title Current Class Code \_\_\_\_\_ New Class Code \_\_\_\_\_ New Pay Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Current Pay Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Current Mgt Level\_\_\_\_ B/U \_\_\_ OT Cat. \_\_\_\_EEO Cat. \_\_\_\_FLSA \_\_\_\_ New Mgt Level \_\_\_\_\_ B/U \_\_\_\_OT Cat. \_\_\_\_EEO Cat. \_\_\_\_FLSA \_\_\_\_ Classification Analyst\_\_\_\_\_\_Date \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Comments: Date Processed: \_\_\_\_\_ Knowledge & Skills: \_\_\_\_ Mental Demands: \_\_\_\_ Accountability: \_\_\_\_ Willis Rating/Components: Working Conditions: Total: Position Information: Incumbent: Vacant or New Position Position Number: Current Job/Class Title: Business Project Manager Agency/Department/Unit: AHS/DMH/Operations GUC: Pay Group: Work Station: WSOC - NOB 2 North Zip Code: 05671 Position Type: Permanent X Limited Service (end date ) 3/31/2025

Check the type of request (new or vacant position) and complete the appropriate section.

Supervisor's Name, Title and Phone Number: Lee Dorf, DMH Director of Operations, Planning &

## New Position(s):

Development, 802-585-0885

a. REQUIRED: Allocation requested: Existing Class Code 085250 Existing Job/Class Title: Business Project Manager

Funding Source: 🗌 Core 🔀 Sponsored 🔲 Partnership. For Partnership positions provide the funding

b. Position authorized by:

breakdown (% General Fund, % Federal, etc.)

Request for Classification Action Position Description Form C Page 2 Approval Date: Legislature – Provide statutory citation (e.g. Act XX, Section XXX(x), XXXX session) Other (explain) -- Provide statutory citation if appropriate. **Vacant Position:** a. Position Number: b. Date position became vacant: c. Current Job/Class Code: Current Job/Class Title: d. REQUIRED: Requested (existing) Job/Class Code: Requested (existing) Job/Class Title: e. Are there any other changes to this position; for example: change of supervisor, GUC, work station? Yes \( \subseteq \text{No} \subseteq \text{If Yes, please provide detailed information:} \) For All Requests: 1. List the anticipated job duties and expectations; include all major job duties: Professional work serving as a business project manager to the Department of Mental Health on business process coordination. Identifies specific business process related to the Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) initiatves that arise from the addition enhanced Medicaid match funding. Activities are part of a mid-term plan to utilize one-time funding to increase HCBS supports and expand services. This position will keep the projects organized and all teams informed of progress, blockers, and deadlines to achieve successful project implementation and execution. Project manager support to restructure division processes, eliminating backlogs of departments operations and train team on new processes. Document and analyze current state, assist in requirements gathering and design session, provide future state modeling and proposed future state proceeds and documentation. Oversee project and process improvement teams and manage key staff involved. Encourage collaboration and feedback, motivate staff to actively participate in. Use project management skills for multi tasking and management of deadlines. Monitor progress of projects once complete holding staff accountable on identified tasks and observe recognized timeliness. Duties are performed with independence under the general supervision of the Director of Operations, Planning & Development. 2. Provide a brief justification/explanation of this request: HCBS-FMAP funding is an additional funding source that is intended to expand programs, services, and technology to make system improvements. The additional work load requires significant coordination and collaboration. This position will be dedicated to that

3. If the position will be supervisory, please list the names and titles of all classified employees reporting to this position (this information should be identified on the organizational chart as well). N/A

work to ensure there is consistent forward progress and minimize confusion or inconsistency with overlapping

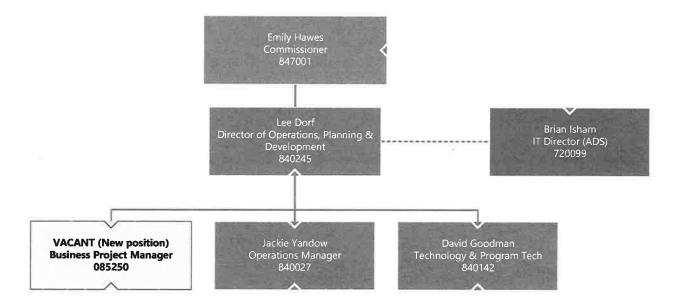
projects. This position will be integral to the department's successful utilization of this funding and

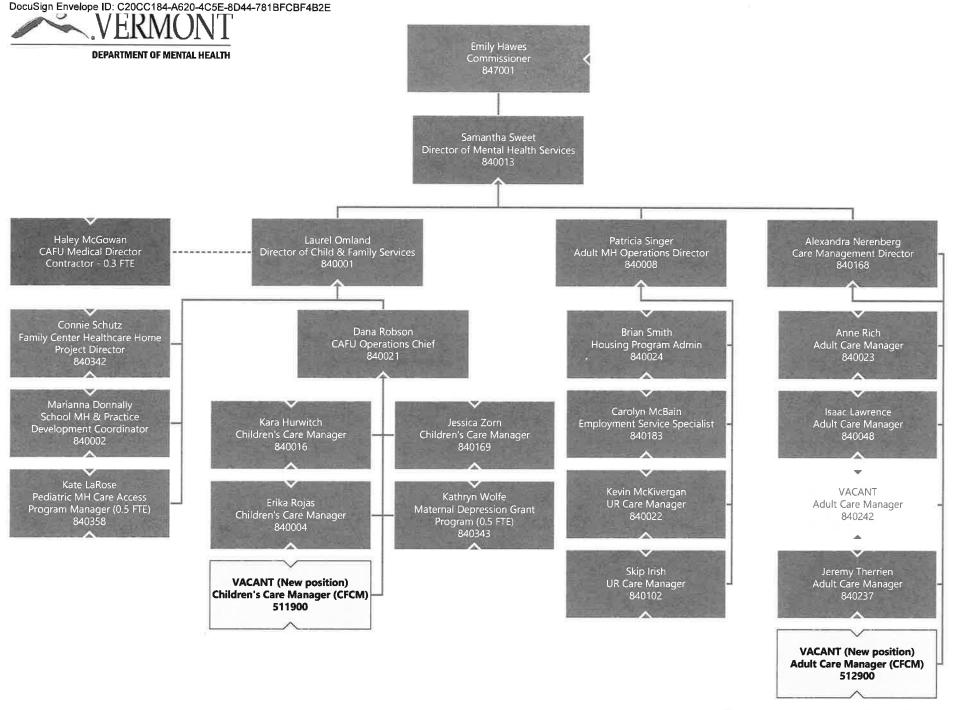
#### Personnel Administrator's Section:

implementation of the associated activities.

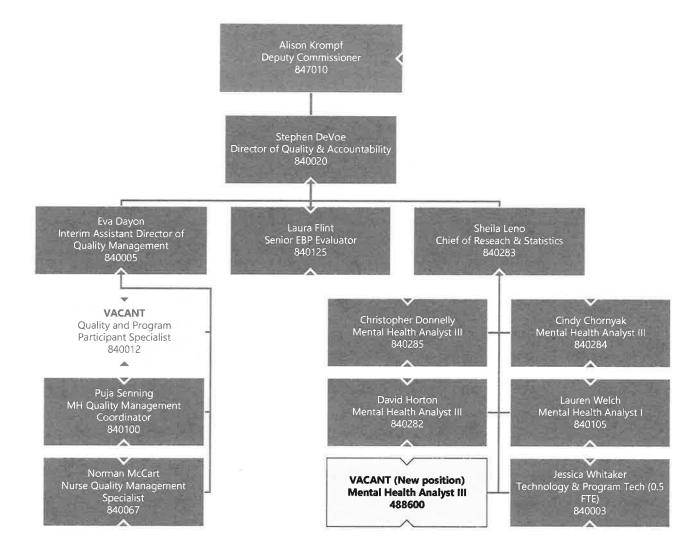
4. If the requested class title is part of a job series or career levels? Yes ☐ No⊠	ladder, will the position	on be recruited at different		
5. The name and title of the person who completed this form & Development.	n: Lee Dorf, DMH Dire	ector of Operations, Planning		
6. Who should be contacted if there are questions about this Dorf, 802-585-0885	s position (provide nar	me and phone number): Lee		
7. How many other positions are allocated to the requested	class title in the depar	rtment:		
8. Will this change (new position added/change to vacant poorganization? (For example, will this have an impact on the duties be shifted within the unit requiring review of other post classification process.)	supervisor's manager	ment level designation; will		
Attachments:				
☑ Organizational charts are <b>required</b> and must indic	cate where the positio	n reports.		
☐ Class specification (optional).				
For new positions, include copies of the language authorizing the position, or any other information that would help us better understand the program, the need for the position, etc.				
$\boxtimes$ Other supporting documentation such as memos regarding department reorganization, or further explanation regarding the need to reallocate a vacancy (if appropriate).				
DocuSigned by:				
Tammie Ellison		9/19/2022		
Personnel Administrator's Signature (required)*	=	Date		
Lee Dorf 168704C5C5874EF		9/16/2022		
Supervisor's Signature (required)*		Date		
DocuSigned by:				
Emily Hawes C50275615A82482		9/16/2022		
Appointing Authority or Authorized Representative Signature	(required)*	Date		

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Attach additional information or comments if appropriate.





**Updated September 2022** 



DocuSign Envelope ID: AD7D206B-D276-47BC-81ED-A4CB74558D4E

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12 Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



## Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group

October 13, 2022

Andrea DeLaBruere Commissioner State of Vermont Agency of Human Services Office of the Secretary 280 State Drive Waterbury, VT 05671

#### Dear Commissioner DeLaBruere:

We are pleased to inform you that Vermont's federal fiscal year 2023 quarter 1 spending plan and narrative continue to meet the requirements set forth in the May 13, 2021, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) State Medicaid Director Letter (SMDL) # 21-003 and SMDL # 22-002. Vermont can begin implementing all of the activities in the spending plan and narrative and qualifies for a temporary 10 percentage point increase to the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for certain Medicaid expenditures for home and community-based services (HCBS) under section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). We have approved the temporary 10 percentage point increase to the state's FMAP for certain Medicaid HCBS listed in Appendix B of SMDL # 21-003. The increased FMAP is available for qualifying expenditures between April 1, 2021, and March 31, 2022.

Full approval of the spending plan and narrative is conditioned upon the state's continued compliance with program requirements as stated in SMDL # 21-003 and SMDL # 22-002. These requirements are in effect as of April 1, 2021, and continue until March 31, 2025, or until the state has fully expended the funds attributable to the increased FMAP, whichever comes first.

It is important to note that CMS approval of the spending plan and narrative solely addresses the state's compliance with the applicable requirements set forth under section 9817 and fulfillment of the requirements as stated in SMDL # 21-003 and SMDL # 22-002. This spending plan approval does not constitute approval for purposes of claiming federal financial participation (FFP). Approval of any activity in your state's spending plan does not provide approval to claim FFP for any expenditures that are not eligible for FFP. States must continue to comply with all existing federal requirements for allowable claims, including documenting expenditures and draws to ensure a clear audit trail for the use of federal funds reported on the Form CMS-37 Medicaid Program Budget Report and the Form CMS-64, Quarterly Medicaid Statement of Expenditures.

States should follow the applicable rules and processes for section 1915(c) waivers, other Medicaid HCBS authorities, including state plan amendments and section 1115 demonstrations, and other managed care authorities (as applicable), if they are making changes to an HCBS program and intend to use state funds equivalent to the funds attributable to the increased FMAP

## Page 2 – Andrea DeLaBruere

to pay the state share of the costs associated with those changes. CMS is available to provide continued technical assistance to states when implementing changes to HCBS programs under this provision. Furthermore, states should follow the applicable rules and processes for claiming FFP for Medicaid administrative costs, including, if necessary, updating the state's Public Assistance Cost Allocation Plan to reference methodologies, claiming mechanisms, interagency agreements, and other relevant issues that will be used when claiming and appropriately allocating costs.

## **General Considerations**

As part of this approval, CMS is noting the following:

- CMS expects your state to notify CMS as soon as possible if your state's activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under ARP section 9817:
  - Are focused on services other than those listed in Appendix B or that could be listed in Appendix B (e.g., behavioral health services that are covered under another benefit but could be covered under the rehabilitative services benefit). If any activities are not directly related to the services listed in Appendix B or services that could be listed in Appendix B, please explain how those activities enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under Medicaid;
  - Are focused on services delivered in Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD) or other institutional settings, providers delivering services in IMDs or other institutional settings, or other activities implemented in IMDs or other institutional settings (which CMS would not find to be a permissible use of funds, unless the state can demonstrate that the activity supports institutional diversion or community transition or otherwise supports the intent of ARP section 9817);
  - o Include room and board (which CMS would not find to be a permissible use of funds); and/or
  - o Include activities other than those listed in Appendices C and D.
  - CMS will need additional information before it can determine whether any of those activities or uses of funds are approvable under ARP section 9817.
- HCBS provider pay increases funded through the 10 percent temporary increased FMAP will require an updated rate methodology. For section 1915(c) waiver programs, states are required to submit a waiver amendment for any rate methodology change. If retrospective approval will be required, the state should make the change in the Appendix K application.
- Consistent with regulations at 42 C.F.R. § 447.252(b), the state plan methodology must specify comprehensively the methods and standards used by the agency to set payment rates. The state plan methodology must be comprehensive enough to determine the required level of payment and the FFP to allow interested parties to understand the rate setting process and the items and services that are paid through these rates. Claims for federal matching funds cannot be based upon estimates or projections. The reimbursement methodology must be based upon actual historical utilization and actual trend factors.
- States providing HCBS through a managed care delivery system must comply with applicable federal requirements, including 42 C.F.R. part 438. States must also ensure that appropriate authority is granted for the services and activities to be covered as well as to deliver such services and activities through a managed care delivery system. Additionally, states will need to assess implications for its managed care plan contracts and actuarially

#### Page 3 – Andrea DeLaBruere

sound capitation rates in order to operationalize any programmatic changes. States that seek to contractually require their managed care plans to increase HCBS provider payments must adhere to federal requirements for state directed payments in accordance with 42 C.F.R. § 438.6(c), including prior approval as required. CMS is available to provide technical assistance to states related to these requirements.

- If your state is reducing reliance on a specific type of facility-based or congregate service and increasing beneficiary access to services that are more integrated into the community, your state should be clear with stakeholders in your state's stakeholder engagement activities, as well as in submissions to CMS of required ARP section 9817 spending plans and narratives and any resulting waiver or state plan amendments, about how these changes enhance the availability of integrated services in the specific waiver or state plan, and offset any reductions in previously covered services, in compliance with the home and community-based settings criteria or other efforts to increase community integration.
- Please note that, if your state is reducing or eliminating a waiting list for a section 1915(c) waiver program as part of the state's activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under ARP section 9817, the state cannot use the funds attributable to the increased FMAP to pay for approved capacity as of April 1, 2021. The state must increase the Factor C to establish additional waiver slots and can only use the funds attributable to the increased FMAP to pay for services for individuals who are newly enrolled in the waiver program directly as a result of the increase in Factor C. However, under certain conditions, CMS may make an exception and approve the use of the funds attributable to the increased FMAP to increase waiver capacity in order to reduce waiting lists in states that can document that they had a state limit on waiver slots that was below the number of slots approved by CMS. States should contact <a href="https://example.com/HCBSincreasedFMAP@cms.hhs.gov">HCBSincreasedFMAP@cms.hhs.gov</a> if they have questions related to this.

CMS is also clarifying that, if your state increases the number of section 1915(c) waiver slots and enrolls additional individuals who are not already Medicaid eligible into the waiver program as a result, the state will have an increase in non-HCBS Medicaid expenditures as a result of the increase in waiver program enrollment. In this situation, the state can use the funds attributable to the increased FMAP to pay for community-based Medicaid expenditures, including community-based state plan services not listed in Appendix B, for individuals who become Medicaid eligible because of the state increase in the number of waiver slots as part of a state's activities to expand, enhance, or strengthen HCBS under ARP section 9817. However, your state cannot use the funds attributable to the increased FMAP to pay for institutional services for those individuals, as this would be inconsistent with the intent of ARP section 9817. Your state should clearly indicate in the spending plan and narrative if the state is using the funds attributable to the increased FMAP to pay for community-based state plan services not listed in Appendix B for individuals who become Medicaid eligible because of the increase in the number of waiver slots.

#### Other Information Related to the State's Spending Plan and Narrative Submissions

Effective June 3, 2022, states are only required to submit an HCBS spending <u>narrative</u> semi-annually (every other quarter), rather than quarterly; HCBS spending narratives are due 75 days before the start of every other federal fiscal quarter until the state's funds in an amount

### Page 4 – Andrea DeLaBruere

equivalent to the enhanced FMAP received by the state have been expended. Please note the frequency for submitting the HCBS spending plan is not changing. States must continue to submit an HCBS spending plan 75 days prior to the beginning of each federal fiscal quarter until the state's funds in an amount equivalent to the enhanced FMAP received by the state have been expended.

Vermont's next spending plan is due October 18, 2022. Please refer to SMDL #  $\underline{21-003}$  and SMDL #  $\underline{22-002}$  for information on the reporting process.

Your state's spending narrative submissions should:

- Describe how the state intends to sustain the activities it is implementing to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under the Medicaid program including how the state intends to sustain its planned provider payment increases;
- Provide information on the amount or percentage of any rate increase or additional payment per provider and the specific Medicaid authorities under which the state will be making those rate changes or payments, if applicable;
- Clearly indicate if your state has or will be requesting approval for a change to an HCBS program and be specific about which HCBS program, which authority it operates under, and when you plan to request the change;
- Clearly indicate whether your state plans to pay for capital investments or ongoing internet connectivity costs as part of any activity to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS. Capital investments and ongoing internet connectivity costs are permissible uses of funds to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under section 9817 of the ARP. However, states must demonstrate how capital investments and ongoing internet connectivity costs would enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS and ensure that capital investments will result in settings that are fully compliant with the home and community-based settings criteria. Further, approval of capital investments and ongoing internet connectivity costs in ARP section 9817 spending plans and narratives does not authorize such activities for FFP;
- Provide updated information (as appropriate) on the status and details of the state's proposed activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS; and
- Make other revisions needed to: update or modify the state's planned activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS; and report on the state's progress in implementing its planned activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS.

Your state's spending plan submissions should:

- Provide projected and actual spending amounts for each of the state's planned activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS. In those projections, clearly identify if the state intends to draw down FFP for any activities, as well as the amount of state and federal share for any activities for which the state plans to claim FFP and whether those activities will be eligible for the HCBS increased FMAP under ARP section 9817:
- Update the amount of funds attributable to the increase in FMAP that the state has claimed and/or anticipates claiming between April 1, 2021, and March 31, 2022; and
- Update anticipated and/or actual expenditures for the state's activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under the state Medicaid program between April 1, 2021, and March 31, 2025.

## Page 5 – Andrea DeLaBruere

We extend our congratulations on this approval and look forward to working with you further throughout the implementation of ARP section 9817. Programmatic and financial questions and spending plan and narrative questions for section 9817 of the ARP can be submitted to HCBSincreasedFMAP@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Bowdoin

Director, Division of Community Systems Transformation

Wendy Trafton cc:

Fran Hodgins