Public and Tribal Notice Wyoming Department of Health, Medicaid Family Planning Waiver, Pregnant by Choice Program

February 2, 2024

Wyoming Medicaid is providing Public and Tribal notice of the Agency's Annual Post Award Public Forum regarding the Section 1115 Medicaid waiver program, Wyoming Pregnant by Choice (PBC) Program to be conducted by the State as required by 42 CFR §431.420(c). The demonstration currently expires on December 31, 2027.

Under the PBC demonstration, the State provides family planning services to certain eligible women. The PBC demonstration aims to reduce the incidence of closely spaced pregnancies and decrease the number of unintended pregnancies, thereby achieving cost savings and reducing health risks to women and children. In CY2023, the State submitted a Demonstration Amendment requesting a change to how eligibility is assessed:

In 2023, the Wyoming Legislature approved <u>House Bill HB0004</u> to extend Medicaid postpartum coverage to a full year (an additional ten (10) months beyond the current sixty (60) days of Medicaid coverage a woman receives postpartum). The effective date of this change was July 1, 2023 and a State Plan Amendment was completed to reflect this legislative change. This coverage will be available to women until March 31, 2027 – so it doesn't provide this coverage indefinitely. This legislation affects the Pregnant by Choice Program as it will cause an adjustment to the timeframe a woman is eligible to enroll into the Pregnant by Choice Program – at least through the end of March 2027.

The Wyoming Department of Health requested the following changes to the Family Planning Waiver, Pregnant by Choice Program (PBC) eligibility and enrollment process: the Wyoming Eligibility System will attempt an ex parte renewal for individuals enrolled in the Pregnant Women Program in order to *auto-enroll women prior to their anticipated coverage termination date. If the member cannot be renewed using the ex parte process, a renewal form is mailed to the member giving them sixty (60) days to complete and return the renewal.* 

Instead of PBC eligibility being offered within sixty (60) days postpartum (*after delivery*), the member would be eligible to qualify for the Program within sixty (60) days *of* coverage *ending (benefits terminating).* Women enrolled in a pregnant woman program will be offered enrollment into the Family Planning Waiver, PBC program (if she hasn't already been enrolled using the ex parte process within that time frame). She must elect coverage during that sixty (60) day window, or else she is no longer eligible.

There have been no changes to benefit administration since the waiver was originally approved in 2009 and renewed again in April 2020.

This Family Planning Waiver, Pregnant by Choice Program Public Forum is an opportunity for the public to share any concerns and to discuss any Program feedback related to the Pregnant by Choice Program.

The Public Forum teleconference is scheduled for March 4, 2024, 11am-12pm MST. Participants may join the Forum by phone using the following conference line: 1-470-735-3667, PIN: 968-067-380#.

If you are unable to make the Forum, please submit any questions, comments, and concerns in writing to the following email by the end of the day on March 4, 2024:

## Sarah.Hoffdahl@wyo.gov

Or by mail to the following address:

Herschler Building Attn: Sarah Hoffdahl, Wyoming Medicaid 122 West 25<sup>th</sup> St, 4 West Cheyenne, WY 82002