**Introduction**

Utah’s 1915 (c) Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Acquired Brain Injury Waiver (ABI Waiver) expires June 30, 2024. In order to continue operations of this waiver, the Division of Integrated Healthcare (DIH) Office of Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) acting as the State Medicaid Agency (SMA). The SMA is the single state agency that retains administrative authority of the ABI Waiver. This waiver allows for the provision of HCBS to individuals meeting a Nursing Facility level of care. The SMA must submit a waiver renewal application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) no later than March 31, 2024.

**Drafting Process**

The DIH together with the Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD) prepared an initial draft of the waiver renewal in the summer of 2023. A workgroup comprised of waiver participants, the families of participants, advocates, providers and State staff from both DIH and DSPD was then convened to review the initial draft and provide input. A final draft was then created as a result of the feedback provided.

**Public Input**

Initial public input was sought by utilizing the workgroup process described above as well as additional public input in the following ways:

* Presenting to the following groups: Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC) and the Utah Indian Health Advisory Board (UIHAB) in March 2024.
* Posting the draft online and providing a 30-day public comment period.
* Reviewing and responding to comments after the 30-day public comment period and making decisions about further amending the waiver to incorporate additional comments received.

The final draft will be completed in March 2024. Final review, approval and submission of the waiver application will be completed by the State Medicaid Director.

**Overview of Proposed Changes**

* General Waiver Changes
  + Changes were made throughout the implementation plan to remove obsolete language and clarify intent.
  + Terminology/grammar has been corrected to reflect changes in agencies/provider designations throughout the document
* Quality Improvement
  + Performance measures were clarified and updated to better reflect existing measures in Utah’s other 1915(c) waiver programs.

Questions and comments about the draft waiver application are welcome and can be submitted to:

Jordan Scarr, Waiver Liaison, DHHS

PO Box 143112

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-3112

Email: [jscarr@utah.gov](mailto:jscarr@utah.gov)

Phone: 801-538-6954