

CMS Rescinds Guidance on HRSN Services

Alliance Daily | Mar. 10, 2025

- **Medicaid is a massive presence in care at home community**
- **Important policy moves will impact the Medicaid program**
- **Organizational leaders MUST understand the possible impact**

In one of the first policy moves focusing specifically on Medicaid, the Trump administration rescinded prior guidance regarding opportunities to provide services that address health related social needs (HRSN), also known as social determinants of health. In an Information Bulletin issued on March 4, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) stated that it was rescinding the HSRN guidance documents so that it could, “evaluate policy options consistent with Medicaid and CHIP program requirements and objectives.” This action will likely lead to fewer Medicaid supports for HRSN and is consistent with broader administration’s priorities regarding reduced federal expenditures.

Specifically, the prior guidance was issued by the Biden administration and outlined authorities in the Medicaid program that could finance HRSN coupled with discussion of different types of HRSN that might be included in various waivers and service definitions. In previous guidance, the Biden administration emphasized meals and nutrition supports as well as housing-related services, including time-limited rent payments. In response, CMS approved proposals from many states spanning the political spectrum to include HRSN in different demonstrations and waivers.

Importantly, CMS’ March 4 release specifies that the guidance does not rescind existing approvals. It also states that CMS will continue to accept proposals from states that include these services; however, they will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis rather than operate under the assumed acceptability of such services intimated by the Biden-era guidelines.

The information bulletin is available online [HERE](#).