



Iowa Department of Human Services

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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1383

DATE: April 30, 2014

TO: Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Providers, Individual Consumer Directed Attendant Care (I-CDAC) Providers, Targeted Case Managers and Department of Human Services (DHS) Service Workers

ISSUED BY: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: HCBS Settings Transition Plan Public Comment Period

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has published regulations to better define the settings in which states can provide Medicaid HCBS. The final rule was published in January 2014 and became effective March 17, 2014. The purpose of these regulations is to ensure that individuals receive Medicaid HCBS in settings that are integrated in and support full access to the greater community. They will also ensure that members have a choice in where they live and who provides their services.

The regulations require the IME to submit a transition plan to CMS with our first Waiver renewal application. As such, the IME submitted a draft version of a transition plan on March 31, 2014, as part of the renewal process for the Intellectual Disability (ID) Waiver. However, the rule also requires the IME to seek input from the public in the development of the transition plan before a finalized version is submitted to CMS.

The IME is making the **draft transition plan** available for public comment from May 1, 2014, through May 31, 2014. The plan is being posted on the IME's [Home and Community Based Services \(HCBS\)](#)¹ webpage along with a white paper and an initial settings analysis. These materials are also being distributed to provider associations, consumer advocacy organizations and other potentially interested stakeholders.

Comments on the transition plan and settings analysis should be submitted in writing to: HCBSsettings@dhs.state.ia.us. All comments will be reviewed, summarized and responses developed. Appropriate suggestions will be incorporated into the transition plan and responses to public comments will be posted on the IME website.

In order to collect additional comments, stakeholder forums will also be held at various locations around the state and by webinar, during the last two weeks in May. Specific dates and locations will be posted on the IME website.

Please submit any questions to HCBSsettings@dhs.state.ia.us.

¹ <http://www.ime.state.ia.us/HCBS/HCBSTraining.html>