CMS Snapshot

August 24-31, 2023

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group in the Office of Communications

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, August 24 through 2pm Thursday, August 31, 2023

News Releases

*August 24- Medicare Shared Savings Program Saves Medicare More Than $1.8 Billion in 2022 and Continues to Deliver High-quality Care. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced today that the Medicare Shared Savings Program saved money for Medicare while continuing to support high-quality care. Specifically, the program saved Medicare $1.8 billion in 2022 compared to spending targets for the year. This marks the sixth consecutive year the program has generated overall savings and high-quality performance results. This represents the second-highest annual savings accrued for Medicare since the program’s inception more than ten years ago.


*August 29- Statements by CMS Leadership on Historic Announcement of First Selected Drugs for Medicare Drug Price Negotiation. For the first time, Medicare is able to directly negotiate the prices of prescription drugs due to President Biden’s lower cost prescription drug law, the Inflation Reduction Act. Today, leaders of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued the following statements on the historic announcement of the first 10 drugs covered under Medicare Part D selected for negotiation under the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program. The negotiations with participating drug companies for the selected drugs announced today will occur in 2023 and 2024 with the negotiated prices effective beginning in 2026. In addition, CMS is announcing more information about patient-focused listening sessions on the selected drugs with interested parties that will occur in Fall 2023.

*August 30- CMS Takes Action to Protect Health Care Coverage for Children and Families. States must assess and fix their systems so eligible children and families can stay covered. Today, and as part of its ongoing work to make sure all Americans have access to health care coverage, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) sent a letter to all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands requiring them to determine whether they have an eligibility systems issue that could cause people, especially children, to be disenrolled
from Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) even if they are still eligible for coverage, and requiring them to immediately act to correct the problem and reinstate coverage.

*August 31* - **CMS Announces Resources and Flexibilities to Assist with the Public Health Emergency in the State of Florida.** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services announced today additional resources and flexibilities available in response to Hurricane Idalia in the State of Florida. CMS is working closely with the State of Florida to put these flexibilities in place to ensure those affected by this natural disaster have access to the care they need – when they need it most.

**Blogs**

*August 24* - **Mark Open Enrollment dates on your calendar.** Key dates for Marketplace coverage.

*August 28* - **HHS Announces $350,000 for Innovative, Community-Led Solutions to Promote Resilience in Children and Youth.** By: Lauren Behsudi, Senior Advisor, Administration for Children and Families, Elizabeth Laferriere, Senior Advisor for Innovation, Office of Population Affairs, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health and Alayna Schreier, Early Childhood Team Lead, Office of Human Services Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Summary: 14 Finalists Selected for Their Community-Led Solutions to Promote Resilience in Children and Adolescents. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced $350,000, in Phase I prizes of $25,000 each to 14 finalists for their community-led solutions to promote resilience in children and adolescents under the HHS Children and Youth Resilience Challenge.

*August 28* - **Celebrating Community Health Workers.** By: Rachel Levine M.D., Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH) Summary: This week is National Community Health Worker Awareness week, and HHS is calling attention to the vital role these frontline public health workers fill. August 28 – September 1 is National Community Health Worker Awareness Week. This week is National Community Health Worker Awareness week, and I want to call attention to the vital role these frontline public health workers fill. I first saw Community Health Workers (CHWs) in action when I started my medical career at Mount Sinai Hospital in East Harlem. While East Harlem sat in the shadow of one of the best hospitals in the nation, not all community members sought care at it. CHWs helped bridge the gap, they were the cultural link between a community and its health care system. CHWs are some of the most trusted voices in the community when it comes to health because they come from the communities they serve. And they are one of the best ways to tackle health inequity and health disparities.

*August 31* - **Looking Back: Honoring Second Chance Month at HHS.** By: Miranda Lynch-Smith, Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Human Services Policy. Summary: During Second Chance Month, HHS hosted an event to highlight the challenges often faced returning from
incarceration and the role of health and human services. April 2023 was Second Chance Month, a time that is focused on ensuring those who have been involved with the criminal justice system are truly given the opportunity to successfully reenter their communities. As we work our way towards the end of summer, it is easy for this focus to get lost with everything else that is going on in our personal and professional lives. To remind us of the importance of this month and all that it signifies throughout the year, I want to share some information about reentry from incarceration and highlights from a reentry simulation the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) held during Second Chance Month.