# All of Our Relatives Living Well at All Ages and Abilities

Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Programs for Elders and People with Disabilities



The Resource Center on Native Aging and Disability (RCNAD) is a National Resource Center on Native American Aging (NRCNAA) project made possible by funding from the Older Indians Office of the Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging and the University of North Dakota's Center for Rural Health. All rights reserved, 2023 -2025.





#### Facts About Aging and Disability in Indian Country



802,510+ Native People with Disabilities\*



Nationwide, 89.7% of Elders have at least one chronic disease



Nearly 10% of those with disabilities are CHILDREN Under the Age of 18

\*Out of 253 Native communities surveyed nationwide, not including people who were inpatient/nursing homes.



### Aging + Disability = Higher Needs & Cost of Care

Tribal Area	HCBS Service	Average Monthly Cost**	
South Dakota	Homemaker/Chore	\$3812	
North Dakota	Homemaker/Chore	\$3467	
Oklahoma	Homemaker/Chore	\$2947	
Tribal Area	Nursing Home	Average Monthly Cost	
Tribal Area South Dakota	Nursing Home Semi-Private		
		Cost	

https://www.genworth.com/aging-and-you/finances/cost-of-care



Home and Community-Based Supports (HCBS) – The Key to Keeping Our Communities Together







# HCBS Waivers – The Cheese on The Medicaid Sandwich



 Medicaid goes by the "Sameness Rule" – every enrollee gets the same State medical services no matter what.

 HCBS Waivers allow state Medicaid programs to offer specific extras to specific groups of people – like Elders, the blind and people with disabilities Examples of Medicaid Billable HCBS Services in Our Communities (And Where to Find Them!)

Home Delivered Meals

Transportation (medical appointments, bank, shopping, ceremony)

Chore Work (lawn mowing, cutting firewood)

House Keeping

Durable Medical

Equipment (Walkers, Wheelchairs,

Commode Chairs)

**Snow Removal** 

Life Alert (Personal

Emergency Service)

Home

Modifications for

Accessibility

Elder Services/Title VI

Health Center/Clinic

Tribal Housing

Community Health & CHRs

Transportation

Family Services



# Patient Enrollment and ITU Billing

Who is Eligible and How Can ITUs Be Reimbursed?

#### Medicaid Waiver Eligibility

- Financial Assessment
  - Income at or below Medicaid limits (FPL)\*
- Functional Assessment
  - Frail Elderly, Blind, Disabled (including certain chronic conditions)
  - At or in danger of a nursing home level of care

Native Medicaid enrollees MUST be allowed to choose an ITU as a service provider.



# Patients Can Be OVER Income and STILL Enroll in an HCBS Waiver

- If they meet the FUNCTIONAL eligibility
- Excess income usually results in a Patient Spend-Down (like a deductible)\*
- Certain Indian Monies/Assets are exempt from Medicaid Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI)(1) and Medicaid Estate Recovery(2)
- (1) https://www.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/american-indian-alaska-native/aian/outreach-and-education/pdf/aian-trust-income-and-magi\_11903-n.pdf
- (2) https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/American-Indian-Alaska-Native/AIAN/Downloads/Medicaid-Estate-Recovery-Rules-and-Protections-for-Indians.pdf

#### ITU's as HCBS Waiver Providers

- AFA/638 Update
  - Add statement to IHS funding agreement noting HCBS services
- NPI Record Update or Add New
  - Include taxonomies for HCBS services
- Provider Requirements
  - Check into special requirement or contracts with State
     Medicaid for Waiver programs



## IYKYK – Important Notes for ITUs as Medicaid HCBS Providers

- Billed like medical claims, including units, time, date spans, and primarily using HCPCs codes
- ITUs are NOT required to contract with Managed Care Organizations (1)
- ITUs without an MCO contract must be paid as In-Network, even when out of state (1)
- CMS requires electronic verification of assets for HCBS enrolleesprogram <u>cannot</u> tell what is "Indian Exempt" (2)

(1) https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/American-Indian-Alaska-Native/AIAN/Downloads/Section-5006-Protections-for-Indians-under-Medicaid-and-CHIP.pdf

(2) https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-21-473r



## A Word From Our Elders

A brief look at Title VI Elder Survey data on HCBS needs and Medicaid enrollment





### Results from NRCNAA Elder Survey\*



Home Delivered Meals\* 72%



Home Modifications 34%



Transportation 41%



Homemaker/Chore Service 35%



Personal Care Support 30%

https://www.nrcnaa.org/needs-assessment



#### Medicaid Waiver Eligibility -OK 55+ Analysis

- 70% reported income at or under the state Medicaid guideline for enrollment in a Waiver
- 79% of income eligible Elders were not enrolled in Medicaid
- 68.9% of Elders receiving Home Delivered Meals were not enrolled in a Medicaid Waiver





SERVICE	2019 TITLE VI TOTAL UNITS	AVERAGE RATES*	POTENTIAL REIMBURSEMENTS
HOME DELIVERED MEALS	2,583,369	\$5.50/meal	\$14,208,529.50
PERSONAL CARE	45,333	\$14.60/Hour	\$661,861.8
HOMEMAKER	109,438	\$14.60/hour	\$1,597,794.8
TRANSPORTATION TRIPS	762,798	\$0.55/Mile, Average round trip 40 miles	\$16,781,556

2019 Title VI Aging Aggregate Reports (AGID Database)

This data is from the aggregate totals reported by tribal Title VI Elder programs.

The potential reimbursements are based on nationwide Medicaid average rates.





### Questions





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