Informational Update on the October 1, 2019 carve in of Children’s Waiver HCBS in Medicaid Managed Care Plans (MMCP)

To: Health Home Care Managers and Children and Youth Evaluation Service

Several care management agencies and providers have relayed questions that families have regarding the type of enrollment notice they received from the New York Medicaid CHOICE, New York State’s enrollment broker.

If a family or child/youth has questions about whether they are required to enroll in a Medicaid Managed Care plan, please contact New York Medicaid Choice (NYMC) at 800-505-5678. NYMC can assist in clarifying the exemption or exclusion the child may have or assist families in requesting an exemption from Medicaid managed care enrollment for good cause.

Please be aware that there are many reasons why a child/youth may be exempt or excluded from Medicaid managed care. The Department has confirmed enrollment letters were sent on August 16, 2019 to children/youth correctly based on the information on their Medicaid case as of August 1, 2019. As many children/youths were already enrolled, only about 600 children/youth were asked to select a plan. Note that any change of the child’s status that occurred after August 1 would not have been reflected these mailings. If after speaking with NYMC, a family believes their Medicaid case is out of date, they may contact their Local Social Service District to confirm their information.

The State will not be sending additional enrollment letters for the October 1, 2019 transition. This is because the State has not created an auto assignment “sweep” for children impacted by this transition. Children/youth will have the remainder of 2019 to select a plan.

Beginning January 1, 2020, children participating in the Children’s Waiver and not in foster care with a voluntary foster care agency, will be included in the regular auto assignment edits already in place in the Medicaid program. This means that when the child/family have a Medicaid transaction, such as recertification, children/youth who do not have an exemption or exclusion on their case will receive notice at that time to select a Medicaid managed care plan. If a plan is not selected, the child will be assigned to a plan following the State’s standard auto assignment algorithm. After enrollment, auto assigned children/youth will still have 90 days from the effective date of enrollment to change plans (where more than one plan is available in the county).