

Health Outside the Walls of Health Care

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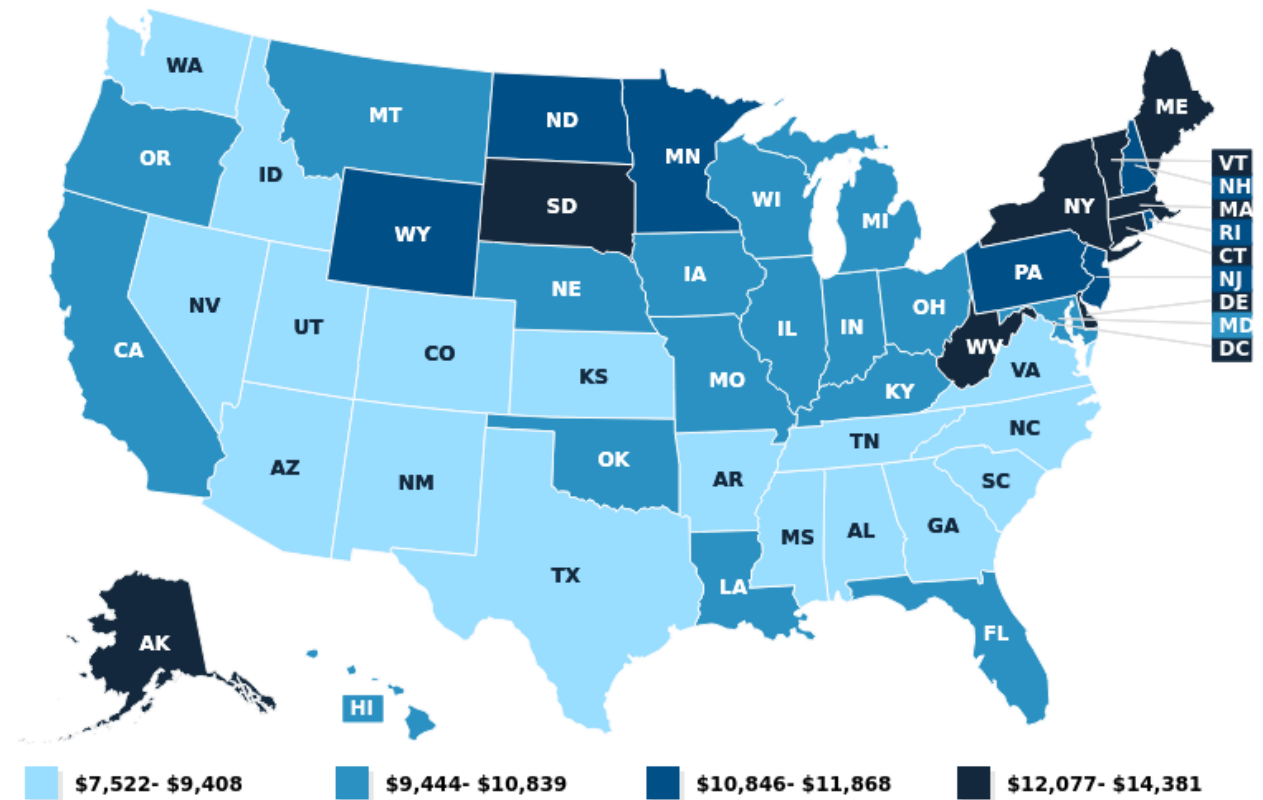


Health Care is Expensive in Alaska

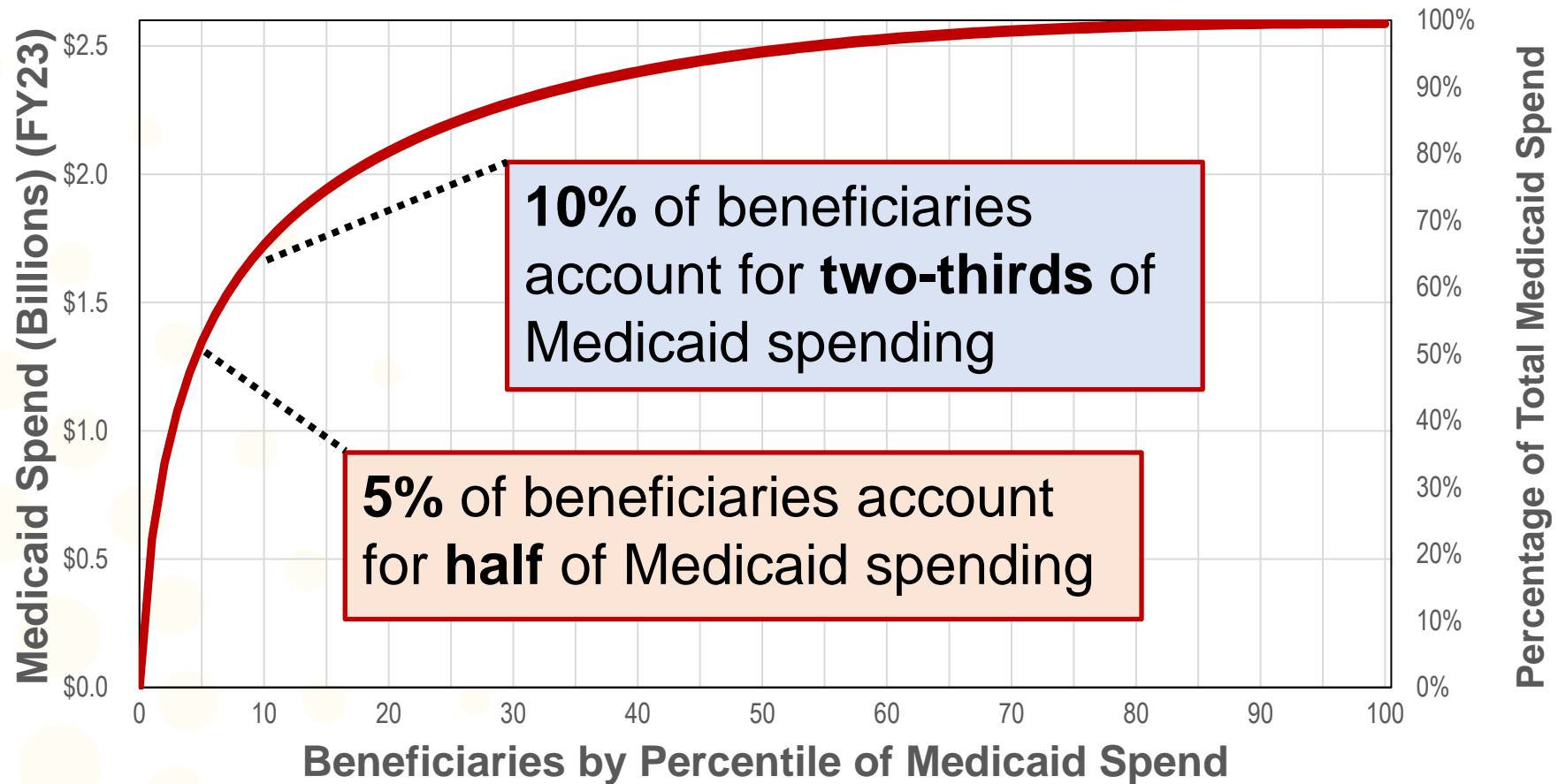


Medicaid is a critical tool to improving Alaska's health care delivery system and patient outcomes.

Total Health Care Expenditures per Capita (2020)



Alaska Medicaid Utilization



Unique geography,
unique challenges



Tailoring Medicaid for Alaskans



- New federal support for Medicaid innovation at the state level
- 1115 waivers allow states to implement specific strategies reflecting their population's unique needs and priorities



December 6, 2022

CMS
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

**Addressing Health-Related Social Needs
in Section 1115 Demonstrations**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
1915 Waiver, Section 1115
Section 1115 Demonstration

CMS
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

**SECTION 1115
1915 Waiver Opportunities to Medicaid and CHIP
to Address Social Determinants of Health
(SDOH)**

January 5, 2022

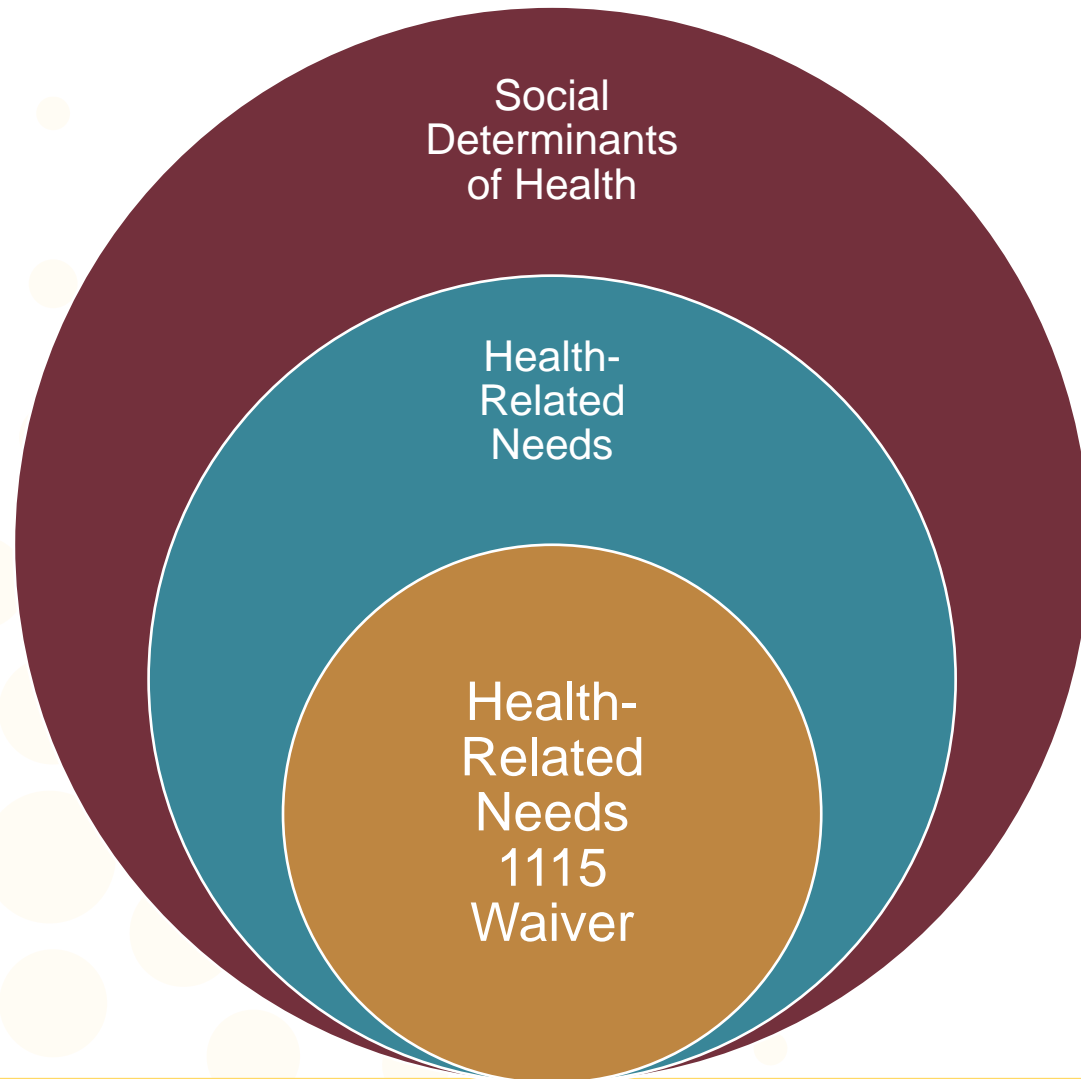
Dear State Health Official:

The purpose of this State Health Official (SHO) letter is to describe the opportunities under Medicaid and CHIP to better address social determinants of health (SDOH) and to support states with ongoing programs, models, and services that are most effective in improving populations' health, reduce disparities, and increase health care use. This letter and CHIP program for addressing SDOH. This letter describes (1) several overarching principles that CMS expects states to follow in their Medicaid and CHIP programs when offering services and supports that address SDOH; (2) services and supports that are currently accepted in Medicaid and CHIP programs to address SDOH; and (3) federal authorities and other opportunities under Medicaid and CHIP that states can use to address SDOH. A table that summarizes the information in key federal authorities for addressing SDOH is also included as an appendix.

Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provide health coverage to 15 million low-income Americans, including many individuals with complex, chronic, and costly care needs. Many Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries face the challenges of SDOH that are holding them back from attaining good, affordable and accessible health, preventive and chronic care, and quality of life. Addressing these challenges can lead to better health outcomes for beneficiaries and higher health care use for Medicaid and CHIP programs and can reduce health disparities for a broad range of populations, including individuals with disabilities, older adults, pregnant and postpartum women and infants, Hispanic and Black individuals with limited access to health care, individuals living with HIV/AIDS, individuals living in rural communities, individuals experiencing homelessness, individuals from racial or ethnic minority populations, the American Indian and Alaska Native population, and individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP).

This letter is the first in a series of letters from CMS to states regarding the opportunities under Medicaid and CHIP to better address SDOH. CMS will continue to work with states and other stakeholders to explore ways to improve health and well-being and the overall health care system for all Americans. CMS will continue to work with states and other stakeholders to explore ways to improve health and well-being and the overall health care system for all Americans. CMS will continue to work with states and other stakeholders to explore ways to improve health and well-being and the overall health care system for all Americans.

Health-Related Needs Waiver



- While social determinants of health are broad environmental conditions, health-related needs are specific to an individual. Unmet health-related needs contribute to poor health outcomes.
- The new 1115 waiver allows for time-limited, medically necessary services to address health-related needs of Medicaid beneficiaries.

Health-Related Needs Waiver



Housing



- Post-transition rent up to 6 months
- Pre-tenancy and tenancy-sustaining services
- One-time transition and moving costs
- Medically necessary home modifications

Nutrition



- Nutrition counseling and education
- Medically tailored meals up to 6 months
- Food prescriptions up to 6 months

Case Management



- Outreach and education
- Program application and fees assistance

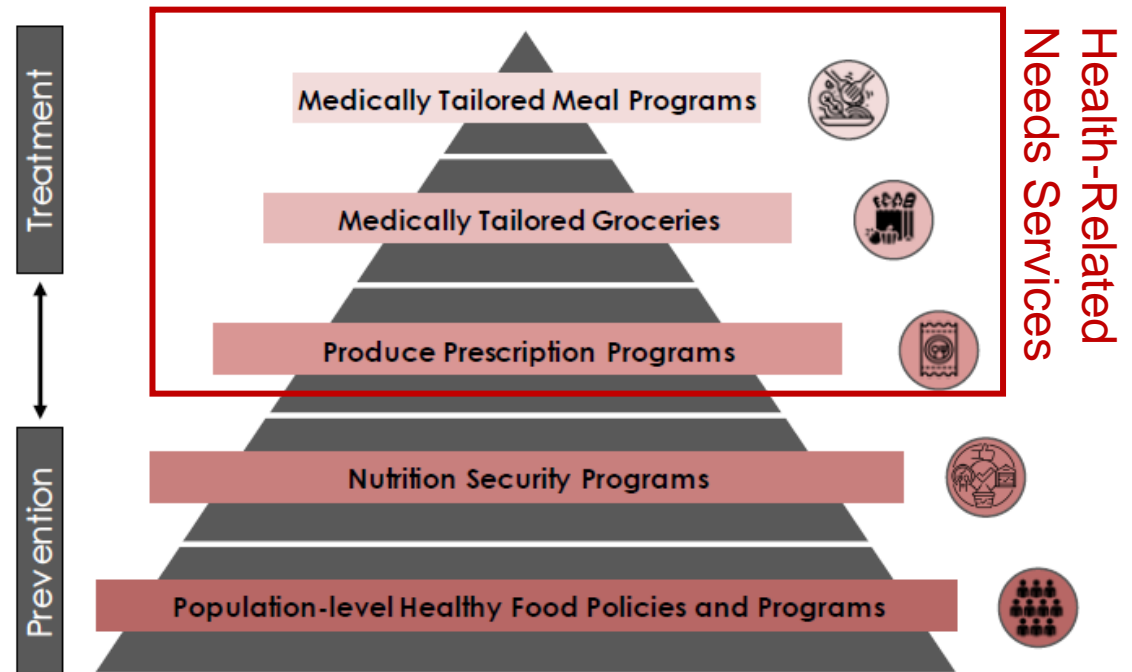
Health-Related Needs Waiver



Under the 1115 waiver, health-related needs services must be:

- ✓ Medically necessary
- ✓ The choice of the beneficiary
- ✓ Individually tailored
- ✓ Distinct from population-based health interventions (must supplement not supplant existing services)

Example: Nutrition Services



Waiver Process



Improving Care for Alaskans



By promoting wellness and addressing the basic health-related needs of Alaskans, we can prevent negative health outcomes and drive down health care costs.



Improve
health
outcomes

Decrease
downstream
costs



Thank You

