AHCCCS would like your assistance in distributing information regarding Arizona’s proposed assessment and transition plan to come into compliance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ (CMS) requirements for home and community based services (HCBS). We need your help to share this information with members, families, providers, advocates and other interested community stakeholders.

AHCCCS conducted a preliminary assessment of Arizona’s HCBS settings to determine its level of compliance, provide recommendations for identified variances, and outline a process for continuous monitoring. The assessment process included a review of statutes, rules, policies and contract language.

AHCCCS will publish its draft assessment of Arizona’s HCBS settings and the draft transition plan to seek public comment on or before August 1, 2015. The public comment period will be for the month of August (August 1 – 31, 2015). AHCCCS will host a round of public forums throughout the state. As part of the public comment period, AHCCCS will disseminate surveys to randomly selected members and providers to further assess a baseline of the state’s assessment and how the rules might currently be employed in practice. The survey responses will be anonymous.

Attached is a flyer for the statewide public forums along with a brief overview and background of the new rules. We would like to keep a record of how the information is being distributed. Please notify or provide copies to Dara Johnson (Dara.Johnson@azahcccs.gov) of emails, website postings, newsletter articles, etc.

Thank you for partnering with us to share this information with our community.

Dara Johnson
Program Development Officer

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Phoenix, AZ 85034
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Dara.Johnson@azahcccs.gov
Please be advised, AHCCCS has posted Arizona’s Systemic Assessment and Transition Plan on the website (www.azahcccs.gov/hcbs) for public comment. The public comment period will be for the duration of August 2015. Please reference the website for information and instructions on submitting public comment. AHCCCS will review and consider all public comment received.

Thank you.

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Thank you for registering for the AHCCCS community forums on the HCBS Rules. This email is being sent to inform you AHCCCS has posted the PowerPoint Presentation for the community forums to the AHCCCS website (www.azahcccs.gov/hcbs) for reference. AHCCCS encourages forum attendees to print and bring their own copy of the presentation.

Additionally, Arizona’s Systemic Assessment and Transition Plan has been posted on the website (www.azahcccs.gov/hcbs) for public comment. The public comment period will be for the duration of August 2015. You may provide public comment at the community forum and/or you may submit public comment via email or mail. Please reference the website for information and instructions on submitting public comment. AHCCCS will review and consider all public comment received.

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AHCCCS has added a community forum on August 28, 2015, to focus specifically on the impact of the HCBS Rules on center-based and group-supported employment programs. Attached is the flyer for the forum and information on how to RSVP. Space is limited!

The AHCCCS website (www.azahcccs.gov/hcbs) provides detailed information on the draft assessment of the state’s current compliance and a draft transition plan for meeting compliance standards of all residential and non-residential settings, including settings that provide employment services.

**Coming Soon to the AHCCCS Website!**
- The community forum presentation translated into Spanish
- A recorded webinar forum for individuals to access who were unable to attend a forum in person

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AHCCCS has added a community forum on August 28, 2015, to focus specifically on the impact of the HCBS Rules on center-based and group-supported employment programs. PLEASE NOTE: A Tucson location has been added. Attached is the flyer for the forum and information on how to RSVP. Space is limited!

The AHCCCS website ([www.azahcccs.gov/hcbs](http://www.azahcccs.gov/hcbs)) provides detailed information on the draft assessment of the state’s current compliance and a draft transition plan for meeting compliance standards of all residential and non-residential settings.

The following items have been added to the AHCCCS Website.

- The community forum presentation translated into Spanish
- A recorded webinar forum for individuals to access who were unable to attend a forum in person

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Thank you for attending the HCBS Rules community forum on employment services. We wanted to let you know the AHCCCS website (www.azahcccs.gov/hcbs) has been updated with the presentation for the employment services community forum. It is also important to note there are a number of other sources of information to support you to provide public comment on Arizona’s current draft assessment and transition plan to come into compliance with the HCBS Rules.

- Links to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ webpage on the HCBS Rules
- A draft of Arizona’s Systemic Assessment and Transition Plan
- A recorded forum webinar that covers all of the proposed changes to each service setting, including employment service settings

**Please Note:** In order to accommodate the individuals who attended the employment service public forum, AHCCCS will continue to receive comments for public input on the HCBS Rules through **Wednesday, September 9, 2015.**

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Program Development Officer

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