In January 2014, the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) announced a requirement for states to review and evaluate current home and community based settings (HCBS), including residential and nonresidential settings, and to demonstrate how Department of Social Services (Department) waivers comply with the new federal HCBS requirements that went into effect March 17, 2014. §§ 42 CFR 441.301(c)(4)-(5). CMS posted additional guidance to help states assess compliance and remediate areas that are not fully in compliance. The Department is seeking comments on the transition plan outlined in this notice.

The Department has reviewed all of Connecticut’s Medicaid waiver programs for compliance with the federal HCBS requirements and submitted an initial plan to CMS. The initial plan was approved by CMS in November of 2016. The amendment to the plan was submitted to CMS for review and approval in the fall of 2018. CMS raised additional questions which are addressed in the amendment to the transition plan. Those questions focused primarily around the Assisted Living Services provided under CT’s waiver programs. The updated version is available now for public comment and will be submitted to CMS for final approval after the comment period has closed. The plan includes the following information:

* A summary of site visits completed;
* An assessment of compliance of our current settings;
* An inventory of remedial actions taken;
* A summary of how each setting meets or does not meet the federal HCBS requirements;
* A list of site specific remedial actions;
* A plan and process for bringing all HCBS into compliance;
* A plan for monitoring settings on an ongoing basis; and
* Identifying settings that have been submitted to CMS for “heightened review

The plan may be found at:

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DSS/Health-and-Home-Care/Community-Options/Final-TransitionPlan-with-Appendices-5-14-19.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DSS/Health-and-Home-Care/Community-Options/Final-TransitionPlan-with-Appendices-5-14-19.pdf?la=en)

A complete text of the plan is available, at no cost, upon request to the Community Options Unit, Department of Social Services, 55 Farmington Ave., Hartford, Connecticut 06106; email shirlee.stoute@ct.gov.

All written comments regarding the plan may be submitted by June 23, 2019 to the Department of Social Services, Community Options Unit, 55 Farmington Ave, Hartford or to Kathy.a.bruni@ct.gov.