



## Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL  
Governor

MARY T. BASSETT, M.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner

KRISTIN M. PROUD  
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

July 14, 2022

Dear Provider,

The NYS Department of Health (Department) would like to let you know about an opportunity for you or your agency/organization to provide Palliative Care services to Medicaid enrolled children/youth receiving services under the 1915c Children's Waiver for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS).

In April 2019, the Children's Waiver brought six previously separate waivers for children operated by different State agencies under one comprehensive waiver administered by Department of Health (DOH). All children/youth eligible for Children's Waiver under 1915(c) authority in New York State may receive a range of HCBS based on their individual needs. Among the array of services available for Children's HCBS is Palliative Care Services.

Palliative Care is specialized medical care focused on providing relief from symptoms and stress of a chronic condition or life-threatening illness. The four components of Palliative Care are defined as: **Expressive Therapy, Massage Therapy, Counseling and Support Services, and Pain and Symptom Management.**

The Department has identified a significant gap of providers to provide these services to children/youth under the Children's Waiver. Our goal is to expand provider network capacity statewide for these services through understanding the needs of families and providers. Therefore, we are reaching out to you/your organization to obtain interest in pursuing this opportunity, answer questions, and provide needed support in becoming a new provider for HCBS.

Please join us for an informational webinar on August 2, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. to learn more about the 1915c Children's Waiver program, the need for Palliative Care providers, how to enroll, and to answer any questions your organization may have. Webinar invitation information:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9099528969021330960>

We invite your organization to send any questions in advance of the webinar to the Children's Behavioral Health Transition mailbox: [bh.transition@health.ny.gov](mailto:bh.transition@health.ny.gov)

Information on Palliative Care Services under the Children's Waiver can be found: [https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/redesign/behavioral\\_health/children/docs/hcbs\\_manual.pdf](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/behavioral_health/children/docs/hcbs_manual.pdf) - *Children's Home and Community Based Services Manual*.

Sincerely,

Health Program Director,  
Children's Health Home