

**Arkansas LTSS Reform Action Plan**  
**November 21, 2016 | Preliminary Draft for Discussion**

**Action Plan Assumptions**

- Below are the key steps to implement aging LTSS reforms with goal of:
  1. Personal care reforms approved and operational by July 1, 2017.
  2. LTSS demonstration approved and operational by January 1, 2018.
- This timeline is achievable but heavily dependent on state and federal decisions. Timing of necessary state and federal approvals are assumed here for planning purposes only.

**December 2016**

- Brief DHS leadership on personal care reforms in detail.
- Draft rule changes and SPA necessary for personal care reforms.
- Brief DHS leadership on LTSS reform demonstration in detail.

**January 2017**

- DHS and Governor's office review and approval of personal care rule and SPA language.
- Stakeholder and legislator briefings on personal care reforms.
- Stakeholder and legislator briefings on LTSS reform demonstration.
- Public comment of LTSS reform concept paper on demonstration.
- Initial draft of s. 1115 waiver application for LTSS reform demonstration.

**February 2017**

- Public notice and public comment process on personal care rule changes and SPA.
- Brief CMS staff on planned s. 1115 waiver application.
- Legislation introduced authorizing s. 1115 waiver demonstration program.
- Draft s. 1115 waiver application finalized for public comment phase.

### **March 2017**

- Personal care rule changes and SPA finalized following public comment.
- Legislative review of personal care rule changes.
- Personal care reform SPA submitted to CMS for review and approval.
- Public comment process on s. 1115 waiver application for LTSS reform demonstration (includes public meetings, stakeholder consultations, solicitation of comments).

### **April 2017**

- Begin implementation of personal care reforms. Most are phased in over April-June 2017. Some are contingent on CMS approval of SPA.
- Continued CMS review of personal care SPA. Answer CMS questions.
- Finalize s. 1115 waiver application for submission to CMS following public comment period.
- Submission of s. 1115 waiver application to CMS following DHS and Governor's office approval.

### **May 2017**

- Federal public comment period on s. 1115 waiver application.
- Continued CMS review of personal care SPA. Answer CMS questions as needed.

### **June 2017**

- Complete implementation of personal care reforms, except for any changes still awaiting CMS approval of SPA.
- State-federal negotiations begin on s. 1115, including waivers and expenditure authorities, budget neutrality, and special terms and conditions.

### **July – December 2017**

- Personal care reforms are operational by July 1, 2017.
- Complete state-federal negotiations on s. 1115 demonstration, finalize special terms and conditions, and receive federal approval.
- Upon federal approval, proceed with implementation during this 6-month period. This includes necessary operational and systems changes, education and outreach, and conforming changes to rules.
- Most or all LTSS reforms in demonstration are operational by January 1, 2018. This include personal care services rolled into new aging LTSS demonstration program.