



CMS Snapshot

July 11-18, 2024

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group in the Office of Communications

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, July 11 through 2pm Thursday, July 18, 2024.

News Releases

*July 12- [CMS Announces Resources and Flexibilities to Assist with the Public Health Emergency in the State of Texas](#). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced today additional resources and flexibilities available in response to Hurricane Beryl in Texas. CMS is working closely with the State of Texas to put these flexibilities in place to ensure those affected by this natural disaster have access to the care they need – when they need it most.

*July 12- [CMS Roundup \(July. 12, 2024\)](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provides an at-a-glance summary of news from around the agency.

*July 12- [HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra Declares Public Health Emergency for Texas in Response to Hurricane Beryl](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra today declared a [Public Health Emergency](#) (PHE) for the state of Texas to address the health impacts of recent severe weather. The declaration follows President Biden’s [emergency declaration](#) and gives the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), health care providers and suppliers, greater flexibility in meeting emergency health needs of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries.

*July 15- [Statement Attributable to CMS Administrator, Chiquita Brooks-LaSure](#).

*July 15- [Readout of HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra’s Meeting with Minister Keizo Takemi, Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare of Japan and Minister Mark Holland, Canada Minister of Health](#).

*July 16- [The Biden-Harris Administration Releases Final Part Two Guidance to Help People with Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage Manage Prescription Drug Costs](#). The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), continues to deliver on President Biden’s commitment to reduce the burden of high, upfront out-of-pocket prescription drug costs through the implementation of the President’s Inflation Reduction Act. Today, CMS is releasing the [final part two guidance](#) regarding plan outreach and education for the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan, which aims to ensure that

people with Medicare prescription drug coverage, especially those most likely to benefit, are aware of the payment option.

*July 16- [Statement from Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Jeff Nesbit on HHS Secretary Becerra Testing Positive for COVID-19](#).

*July 16- [Now in Its Second Year, 988 Lifeline Continues to Help Millions of People](#). *Since the launch of 988 counselors answered more than 10 million calls, texts, and chats; HHS has invested almost \$1.5 billion into 988 as part of the Biden-Harris Administration's comprehensive strategy to address the nation's mental health and substance use crises.* Note to editors and reporters: [B-roll of 988 crisis centers](#) across the country is available for media use, courtesy of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). A [988 Partner Toolkit](#) is also available for media use and sharing. The [988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline](#) has expanded services and continued to answer millions of calls, texts, and chats from people experiencing mental health or substance use crises since its launch on July 16, 2022, the agency heads for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today.

*July 16- [Biden-Harris Administration Launching Initiative to Build Multi-state Social Worker Licensure Compact to Increase Access to Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Address Workforce Shortages](#). *New investments will make it easier for social workers to practice across state lines, increase behavioral health access, and better facilitate telehealth services. Funding builds on HRSA's work to support licensure compacts to improve access to primary care and psychology.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), announced the first-ever Licensure Portability Grant Program investment in a multi-state social worker licensure compact. State licensure compacts allow states to come together on a common approach to licensing health care providers, allowing providers to practice across state lines without having to apply for a license in each state.

Blog

*July 17- [Change Story: Robin D. Bailey Jr.](#) By: [Robin Bailey](#), Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Summary: Robin D. Bailey Jr. grew up in Pacolet, SC, served 5 years in the Air Force, and 33 years in federal service. Now at CDC, he champions DEIAB and drives cultural change.* A Message from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Chief Operating Officer.