

# interChange Provider Important Message

## Attention: Home Health Agencies

### Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) Implementation **Update**

In 2016, [Section 12006 of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act](#) established a requirement for all states to use an EVV system. Medicaid home health care services (HHCS) must use EVV by January 1, 2023.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) has submitted and received approval for a Good Faith Effort (GFE) exemption request from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to delay the EVV implementation timeline.

Furthermore, DSS has approved the use of an Open Vendor EVV model for the future HHCS implementation. This will allow home health providers the opportunity to use a third-party (“Alternate”) EVV system or the State’s existing EVV system, i.e., Santrax Agency Management (SAM), to capture visit data.

DSS, Gainwell Technologies, and Sandata are currently working on refining the technical specifications to support the Alternate EVV system and developing an aggregator portal solution for viewing data. All current DSS EVV home health requirements will be incorporated into the technical specifications. DSS expects these technical specifications to be available to providers in January 2023. Communication to providers is planned throughout the transition process and will include such things as Alternate EVV town hall sessions.

More detailed timelines for the above activities are forthcoming. DSS anticipates that home health providers will be able to start using SAM for Medicaid HHCS in the spring of 2023. For providers that choose to move to an Alternate EVV system, the import process and new aggregator solution will be implemented in the spring of 2023 as well. For those choosing to utilize an Alternate EVV system, a testing and certification process will be required with Sandata before moving to this option. All providers, whether using SAM or the Alternate EVV system, will be expected to comply with the HHCS mandate prior to 1/1/2024.

Providers should continue to monitor important messages and provider bulletins for announcements related to the HHCS implementation.

