NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

The Director of the Division of Medical Services hereby issues the following proposed medical assistance rule(s) under one or more of the following chapters or sections of the Arkansas Code: 20-10-211(a), 20-10-203(b), 20-76-433, 25-10-129, and Title 20, Chapter 77.

Effective July 1, 2011, the Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Services, proposes to implement the SOURCE program in 4 counties in Northwest Arkansas. SOURCE (Service Options Using Resources in Community Environment) is a pilot program established to provide enhanced primary care case management, serving aged and physically disabled Medicaid beneficiaries who are at risk of institutionalization. SOURCE case management services are offered to two groups whose participation is on a voluntary basis. The two groups are individuals residing in Benton, Washington, Boone or Newton counties who participate in one of the following programs:

- A. ElderChoices Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver participants aged 65 and older
- B. Alternatives for Adults with Physical Disabilities HCBS Waiver participants aged 21 to 64 SOURCE is distinguished from other programs in Arkansas by linking primary medical care to community services through a Primary Care Physician/Case Manager team.

Goals identified for SOURCE include:

- A. Reducing the need for long term institutional placement and increasing options in the community for older and disabled Arkansans by designing an effective model replicable across the state
- B. Preventing the level of disability and disease from increasing in the elderly and physically disabled
- C. Eliminating fragmented service delivery through outcome-based case management and coordination among those involved in meeting existing programmatic requirements
- D. Increasing the cost-efficiency and value of Medicaid long term care funds by reducing inappropriate emergency room use, multiple hospitalizations and nursing home placement caused by preventable medical complications, and by promoting self-care and informal support when possible for individual beneficiaries

The proposed policy is available for review at the Division of Medical Services, Program Planning and Development, 2nd floor Donaghey Plaza South Building, 7th and Main Streets, P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437. You may also access it on the Medicaid website (www.medicaid.state.ar.us), and download it from the "Proposed Rules For Public Comment" section of the website's *General* menu. Policy accessed from this location will be watermarked with the word "Proposed". All comments must be submitted in writing no later than May 10, 2011.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact our Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 501-682-8323 (Local); 1-800-482-5850, extension 2-8323 (Toll-Free); or to obtain access to these numbers through voice relay: 1-800-877-8973 (TTY Hearing Impaired).

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, age, race, color or national origin.

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Eugene I. Gessow, Director

Division of Medical Services

Date: April 11 – April 13, 2011