MEMORANDUM SUMMARY

The purpose of this memorandum is to guidance regarding self-directed personal care services covered under the Choices for Independence Waiver Program and the Medicaid State Plan during the COVID-19 Emergency.

Self-Directed Personal Care under the Choices for Independence Waiver Program (PCSP) and Self Directed Personal Care Attendant Services under Medicaid State Plan (PCA)

BEAS offers the following guidance:

Will DHHS allow for family members to care for PCA folks in this short term crisis and be able to get paid?

- Under the PCS State plan benefit authorized under section 1905(a) (24) of the Social Security Act, Medicaid programs generally do not allow billing for PCS provided by a legally responsible relative. [59] This would include spouses or parents of a minor child. However, New Hampshire
has an approved waiver under the Social Security Act Section 1915(c) waiver, therefore billing for care provided by a legally responsible relative is permissible.

**Will DHHS allow face to face requirements to be waived?**

- DHHS will waive face to face requirements (under CFI and PCA to be completed via Skype or telephonic) when participant or GSIL care coordinators requests.
- DHHS requires providers of PCSP and PCA services to continue to:
  - Complete required documentation,
  - Complete telephone or virtual contacts when an attendant care employee is with the consumer to assist as needed, based on timesheet submission and regular schedules,
  - Use videoconferencing whenever possible to get a visual of the consumer and their surroundings,
  - Connect with attendant care employees to provide their assessment of the consumer and identify any needs or abnormalities of the consumer,
  - Ensure that a face-to-face visit is done when it is identified consumer is at risk of immediate harm, and
  - Make outreach calls weekly to high risk consumers to see if a visit is warranted.