

package can be directed to: Mary Guy, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Center for Medicaid and State Operations, Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group, Mail Stop: S2-14-26, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850, (410) 786-2772, E-mail: RealChoiceFY03@cms.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Part I—Paperwork Reduction Act Notice

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) (formerly known as the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA)), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

CMS is requesting an emergency review of the information collection referenced below. In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we have submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the following requirements for emergency review. CMS is requesting an emergency review because the collection of this information is needed before the expiration of the normal time limits under OMB's regulations at 5 CFR Part 1320. This is necessary to ensure compliance with the Trade Act of 2002. CMS cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures because of an unanticipated event and potential public harm.

CMS seeks emergency approval because of the short timeframe that is available to issue the solicitation, receive and applications, and prepare and release award packages. Because of the increased number of grant opportunities, we are expecting an even larger volume of grant applications than was received for this program in FY 2001.

CMS is requesting OMB review and approval of this collection by July 21, 2003 with a 180-day approval period. Written comments and recommendations will be accepted from the public if received by the individuals designated below by July 16, 2003. During this 180-day period, we will publish a separate **Federal Register** notice announcing the initiation of an extensive 60-day agency review and public comment period on these requirements. We will submit the requirements for OMB review and an extension of this emergency approval.

Type of Information Request: New collection; *Type of Information Collection:* Medicaid Program: Real Choice Systems Change Grants for Community Living; *CMS Form Number:* CMS-10086 (OMB# 0938-NEW); *Use:* Executive Order 13217, "Community-Based Alternatives for Individuals with Disabilities" called upon the federal government to assist states and localities to swiftly implement the decision of the United States Supreme Court in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, stating: "The United States is committed to community-based alternatives for individuals with disabilities and recognizes that such services advance the best interests of the United States." State agencies and community groups will be applying for these grants; *Frequency:* On occasion; *Affected Public:* State, local, or tribal government; not-for-profit institutions; *Number of Respondents:* 150 *Total Annual Responses:* 150; *Total Annual Burden Hours:* 1500. CMS has submitted a copy of this notice to OMB for its review of these information collections. A notice will be published in the **Federal Register** when approval is obtained.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access CMS's Web site address at <http://cms.hhs.gov/regulations/pra/default.asp> or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and CMS document identifier, to Paperwork@cms.hhs.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326.

Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden or any other aspect of these collections of information requirements. However, as noted above, in order to be considered in the OMB approval process, comments on these information collection and record keeping requirements must be mailed and/or faxed to the designees referenced below, by July 16, 2003.

Part II—Announcement for Solicitation of Applications for the Real Choice Systems Change Grants for Community Living

A. Background

1. People of all ages who have a disability or long-term illness generally express the same desire to live in the community as do most other Americans. They express a desire to live in their own homes, make decisions about their own daily activities, work, learn, and maintain important social relationships. They express a desire to contribute and participate in their communities and family life. In 1990, the Congress enacted the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (Pub. L. 101-336). The ADA recognized that "society has tended to isolate and segregate individuals with disabilities, and, despite some improvements, such forms of discrimination against individuals with disabilities continue to be a serious and pervasive social problem" (42 U.S.C. 12101(a)(2)). The ADA gave legal expression to the desires and rights of Americans to lead lives as valued members of their own communities despite the presence of disability. Over the past few years, a consensus for assertive new steps to improve the capacity of long-term support systems to respond to the desires of the citizenry has been building. Federal, state, and local governments have begun to take actions to renew and reaffirm a commitment to improving the systems that will support people of all ages with disabilities or long-term illnesses who wish to live in their communities. The President invigorated these efforts in 2001 through his New Freedom Initiative and Executive Order 13217. The Executive Order directs Federal agencies to provide assistance to States and to identify federal policy barriers that might be removed in order to achieve fulfillment of ADA.

2. FY 2001 Real Choice Systems Change Grants for Community Living: On May 22, 2001, CMS published a Notice of Funding Availability for the Systems Change Grants for Community Living in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 28183). Under that notice, CMS invited proposals from states and others, in partnership with their disability and aging communities, to design and implement effective and enduring improvements in community long-term support systems. The response of states and other eligible entities to these grant opportunities was extraordinary. The response revealed a strong interest by states and others in improving community-based systems and for federal technical and resource