



CABINET FOR HEALTH
AND FAMILY SERVICES

Public Health Emergency Unwinding

Veronica Judy Cecil, Sr. Deputy Commissioner
April 2023

Public Health Emergency (PHE)

The Secretary for the Department of Health and Human Services declared a PHE on January 31, 2020, due to COVID-19



The PHE allowed states several flexibilities by:

- Triggering a variety of federal emergency powers
- Temporarily waiving certain Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) requirements
- Permitting continuous coverage with 6.2% enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)



PHE flexibilities remain in effect for 90 days

- The PHE has been extended numerous times
 - Most recent extension is to **April 11, 2023**
 - White House announced end on **May 11, 2023**



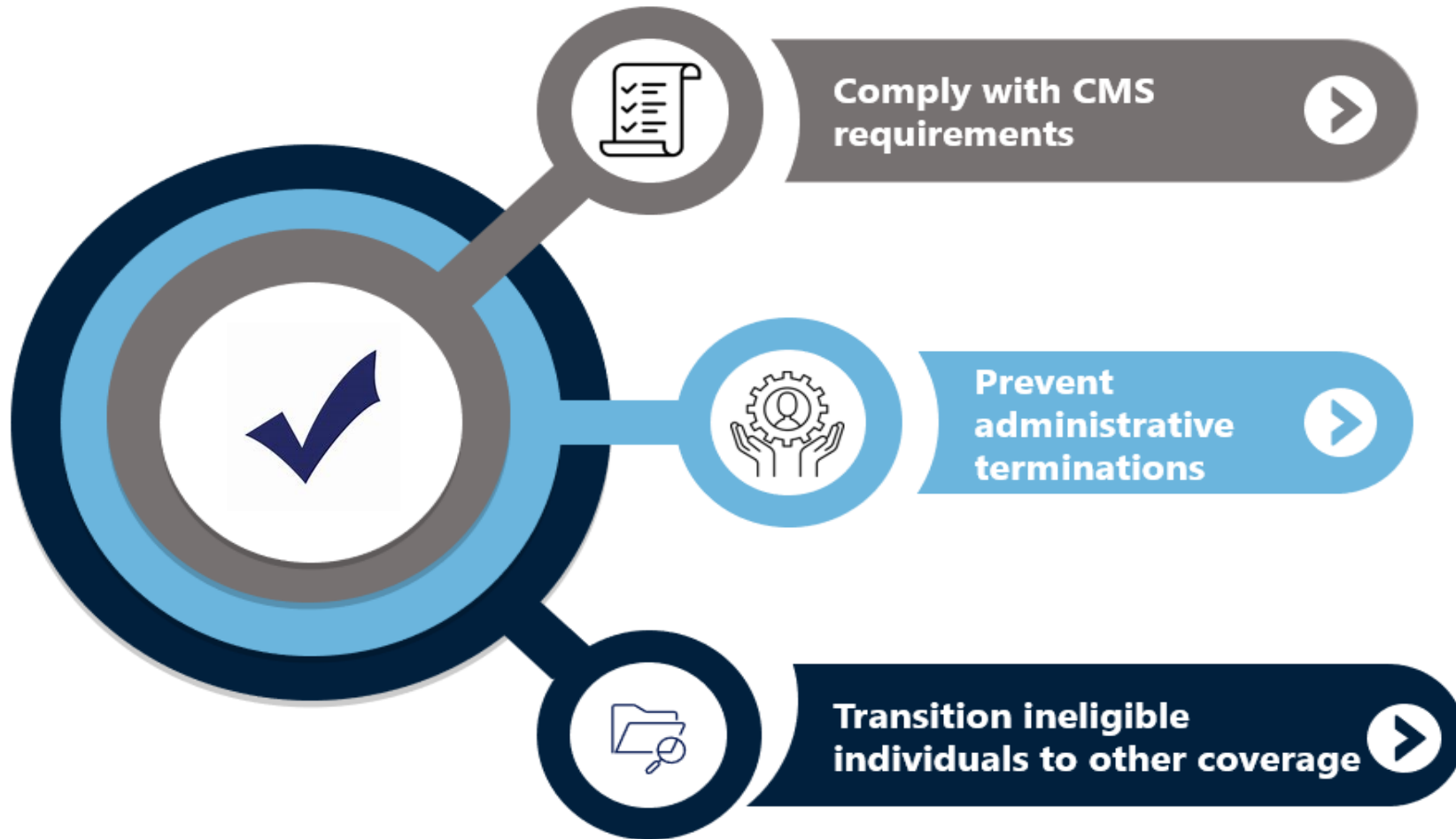
The Consolidated Appropriations Act 2023 separates continuous coverage from the PHE effective **March 31, 2023** and phases out the enhanced FMAP through December 31, 2023



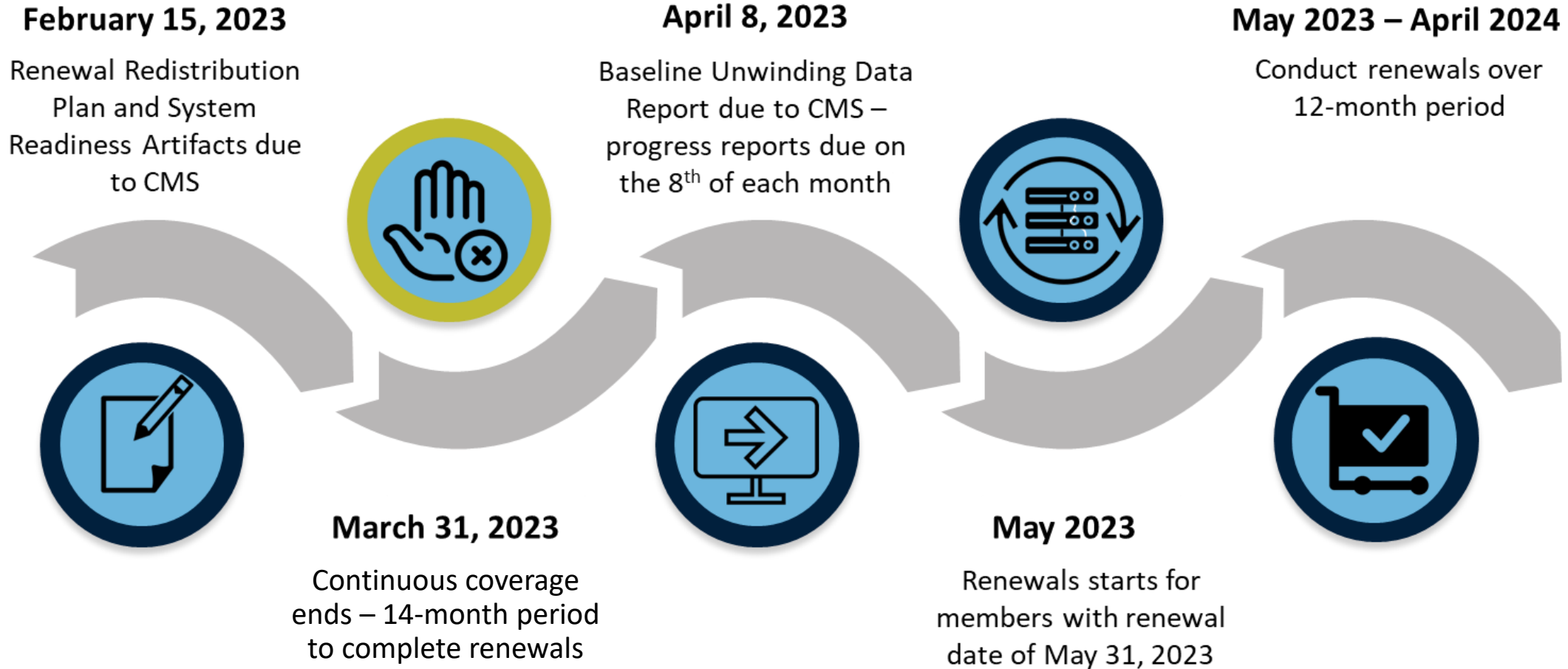
Upon PHE expiration

- ✓ Unwind PHE flexibilities
- ✓ Resume temporarily waived requirements and conditions
- ✓ Identify flexibilities to permanently integrate into state plan or waivers

Kentucky's PHE Unwinding Goals



High Level Timeline for Renewals



Renewal Caseload Planning

All individuals requiring renewal will be distributed across a 12-month period, based on the state's renewal distribution plan



May – June – July – August – September – October – November – December – January – February – March – April

Priority: May-October

Medicare-eligible population will be prioritized in the first 6 months to enroll in Medicare

Priority: June

Special circumstance population (over 14K beneficiaries) will be prioritized in June

Priority: July - ongoing

QHP-eligible population will be engaged starting June 2023 for the duration of the renewal process

KY Medicaid Renewal Process

March

May renewals will receive a text and/or email notification that their renewal month is approaching

DID YOU KNOW?
Members will receive a communication:

- About 90 days before their renewal end date and/or
- If there's no response by the 15th of their renewal month

April

May renewals start processing

May **passive renewals** successfully verified issued notice of renewal

Notice of Eligibility

May **passive renewals not verified** issued request for information about 60 days prior to end date

Request for Info

May **active renewals** issued renewal packet about 60 days prior to end date

Renewal Packet

June renewals will receive a text and/or email notification that their renewal month is approaching

May

May **active renewals and passive renewals with RFI** will issue notice of renewal or denial by month end date

June renewals will start processing

June **passive renewals** successfully verified issued notice of renewal

Notice of Eligibility

June **passive renewals not verified** issued request for information about 60 days prior to end date

Request for Info

June **active renewals** issued renewal packet about 60 days prior to end date

Renewal Packet

July renewals will receive a text and/or email notification that their renewal month is approaching

June

June **active renewals** will issue notice of renewal or denial by month end date

July renewals will start processing

July **passive renewals** successfully verified issued notice of renewal

Notice of Eligibility

July **passive renewals not verified** issued request for information about 60 days prior to end date

Request for Info

July **active renewals** issued renewal packet about 60 days prior to end date


Renewal Packet

August renewals will receive a text and/or email notification that their renewal month is approaching

Example Notices

Example Notice of Eligibility:

KIP-105.1
10/22



kynect
Together for a better Kentucky

Date: 01/19/2023
Case Number: 112917281

Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Department for Community Based Services

Decision About Your Coverage

Please see below for your household coverage. Coverage is based on the information you gave us.

Who was approved for coverage

Name	Program	Coverage Start Date	Coverage End Date
[REDACTED]	Medicaid	August 01, 2022	January 31, 2023
[REDACTED]	Medicaid	March 01, 2023	February 29, 2024
[REDACTED]	Medicaid	March 01, 2022	February 29, 2024
[REDACTED]	Medicaid	March 01, 2022	February 29, 2024
[REDACTED]	Medicaid	March 01, 2022	February 29, 2024

Whose coverage will end

Name	Program	Effective Date
[REDACTED]	Medicaid	February 01, 2023

Reason: You will no longer receive benefits because your SSI payment has stopped. We based our decision on the rules in: 907 KAR 20:060.


You may check the rules online at <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/kar/TITLE907.HTM>.

Important Medicaid Information

If you will be turning 65 in the next 90 days, or become eligible for Medicare due to a disability, there may be actions you need to take. Please refer to the **IMPORTANT: You may soon be eligible for Medicare** insert included in this notice.

Example RFI:

KIP-2.1
09/21



kynect
Together for a better Kentucky

Date: 03/03/2023
Case Number: 113022229

Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Department for Community Based Services

ACTION REQUIRED BY June 01, 2023

WE NEED INFORMATION

WHY?


We need more information from you to decide if you can get benefits. We need it by the due date(s) below. **If we do not get it, you may not qualify for Medicaid or Qualified Health Plan.**

WHAT'S NEXT? We need you to submit proof.

Proof We Require for Medicaid/Qualified Health Plan with Payment Assistance (APTC)	Examples of Proof	Due Date
Verification of lawful presence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I-327 (Reentry Permit); or I-551 (Permanent Resident Card), I-571 (Refugee Travel Document); or I-766 (Employment Authorization Card); or I-94 (Arrival/Departure Record); or Unexpired Foreign Passport; or I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student Status) 	June 01, 2023

Example Renewal Packet:

EDB-087
04/21



kynect
Together for a better Kentucky

DATE: 12/15/2022
CASE NUMBER: 110543114

Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Department for Community Based Services

Medicaid Renewal: We Need Information from You

Why?

It's time to renew your Medicaid benefits. We cannot renew them unless you give us the information we ask for in this letter. We need it by January 31, 2023. If we don't get it, your Medicaid will stop.

What we need and when we need it

What to do	Due Date
Give us the information below	January 31, 2023

Your current info

We used this information about members of your case to decide their eligibility

Name	Monthly Income	Is the person incarcerated?	Resources
[REDACTED]	\$0.00	Not Incarcerated	-

Renewals: How patients respond to a notice

Completing and Returning Forms

- Fill in all requested information
- Return by fax to 502-573-2005 or 502-573-2007
- Return by mail to P.O. Box 2104, Frankfurt, KY 40602

Self-Service Portal

- Log in to kynect at <https://kynect.ky.gov/benefits>
- Click on **Review Benefits** or **upload requested information in RFI**

Call kynect or DCBS

- Call kynect (1-855-459-6328) Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 4:30 pm ET
- Call DCBS (1-855-306-8959) Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 4:30 pm ET and Saturdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm ET

Visit a kynector, insurance agent of DCBS office

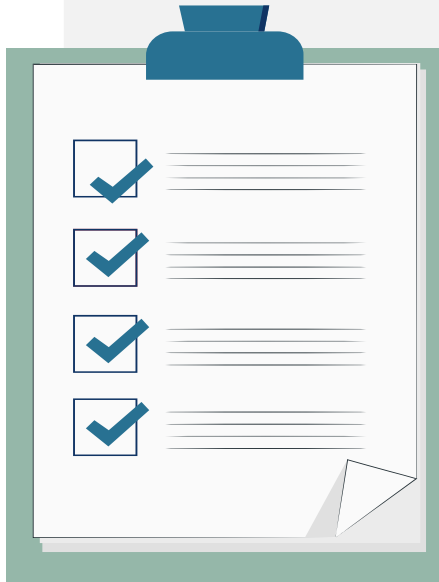
- Find a kynector or agent office* and visit Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 4:30 pm local time
- Find a DCBS office* and visit Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 4:30 pm local time

*Find a kynector or agent office here: https://kynect.ky.gov/benefits/s/auth-reps-assisters?language=en_US

*Find a DCBS office here: https://kynect.ky.gov/benefits/s/find-dcbs-office?language=en_US

Renewals: What's Next?

What to expect and what you can help patients do!



Patients should keep their contact information updated so Kentucky Medicaid is able to reach them when it is their time to renew!

Update contact information as soon as possible!

Visit kynect.ky.gov or call kynect at **855-4kynect (855-459-6328)** with questions and to update mailing address, phone number, and email!



Be on the look out for any mail or outreach from Kentucky Medicaid and be sure to respond!

Renewals: Need help?

There are
people in
your
community
who can
help your
patients!

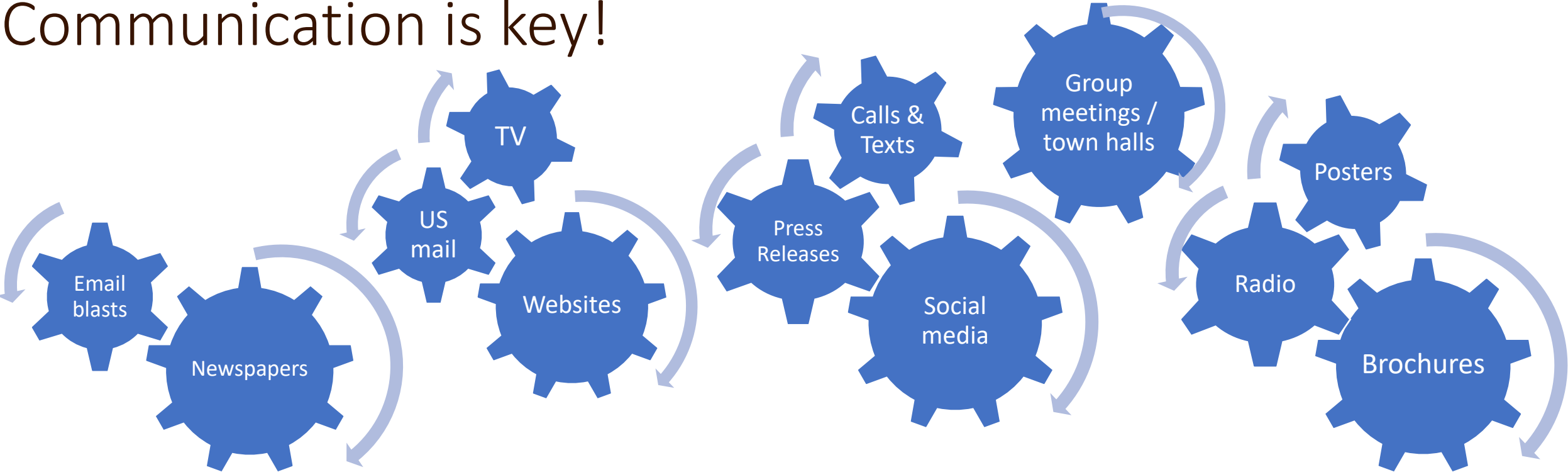
[kynector](#) or [licensed insurance agent](#) available online and by calling **1-855-4kynect** (1-855-459-6368)

If they're 65+ call the SHIP Hotline at (877) 293-7447 (**option #2**) or call DAIL at (502) 564-6930 and ask for a SHIP counselor to learn about Medicare options!

Check out Kentucky's website for all things Medicaid Renewals and PHE Unwinding!

<https://khbe.ky.gov/Enrollment/Pages/PHEUnwinding.aspx>

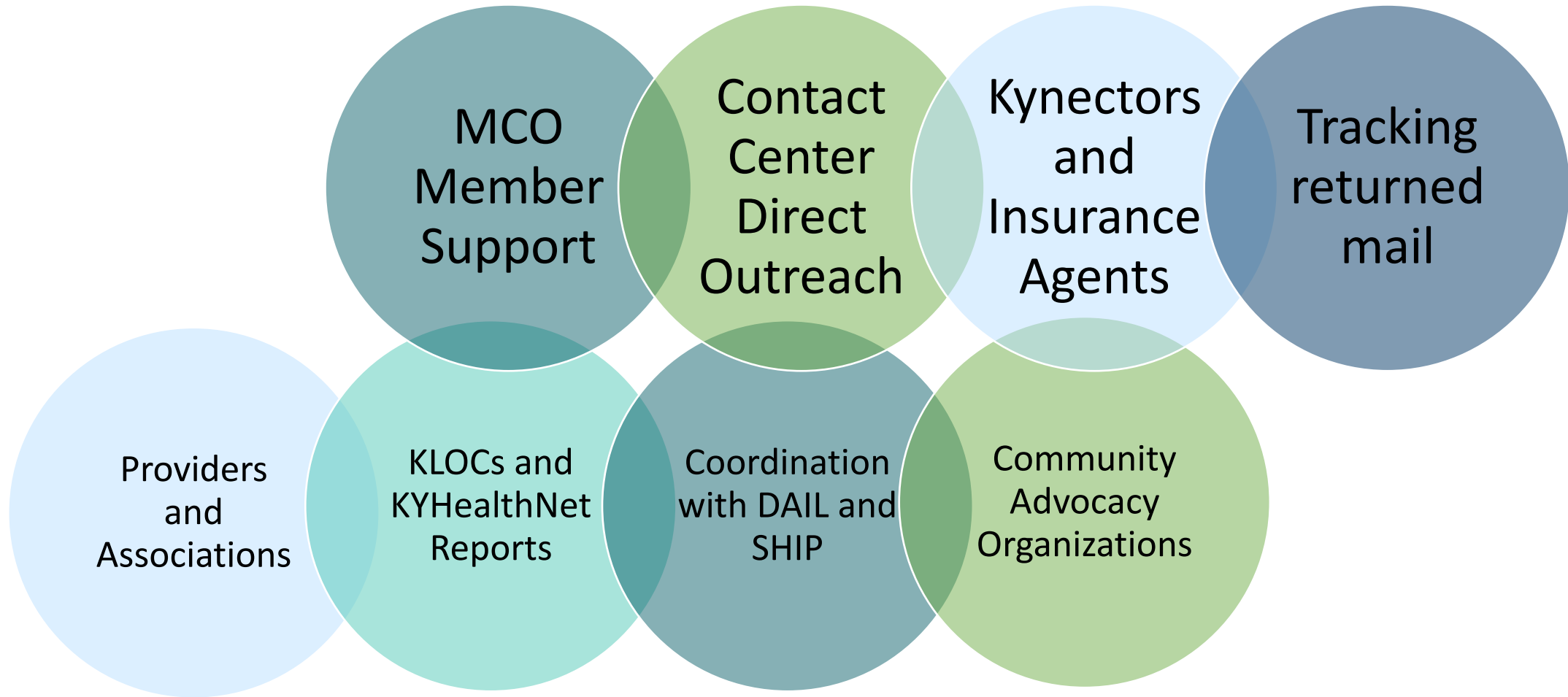
Communication is key!



Members * Providers * State Agencies * Managed Care Organizations * Advocacy & Community Based Organizations



Proactive Approaches to Help Members



Support Patients Through Renewals

Renewals will occur over a 12-month period.

The first to go through a renewal are those having a May 31, 2023 end date.

Notices for these individuals went out in April.

Here is how to find your patient's renewal date in KYHealthNet.

KENTUCKY
CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
KY MEDICAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (KYMIMIS)

Provider Home | Member | Claims | PA | Missed Appointments | Provider References | Trade Files | RA Viewer | Logout

Member Eligibility Verification

Friday 24 March 2023 07:55 am

Provider: [dropdown] - 282N00000X

Select Lookup Type: Member ID Lookup Service Type: [dropdown] Search

Member ID: [input]

From Date: 03/24/2023 To Date: 03/31/2023

Verification No. 230830000C - 3/24/2023 Status: Active

Print

Member

Current ID: [input] Last Name: [input] First Name: [input] Date of Birth: 09/27/1964

Previous IDs: [input] Check Digit: 0 Gender: F Date of Death: [input]

SSN: [input] Phone Number: () [input] County: 058 - Johnson

Physical Address: 1833 [input] View Member's Mailing Address: [here](#)

City: [input] State: KY Zip Code: [input]

Hospice Election Date: [input]

Medicare A: [input] Medicare B: [input]

Medicare C: [input]

Case Number: [input] Case Name: [input] Above FPL: N

Redetermination Date: 06/01/2023

Member's Authorized Representative

No Authorized Representative on file for current member.

Eligibility

Eligibility 5 Year History

Eligibility Group	Program Code	Program Status	From Date	To Date
KY Managed Care Organization with Co-Pay	D - Disabled indiv who rec	00 - Regular	03/24/2023	03/31/2023

How can I help my patients?

- ✓ Ask them to update their information in kynect by logging into kynect.ky.gov or calling 855-4kynect (855-459-6328)
- ✓ Remind them to watch for notices. Medicaid will contact them when it is their time to renew.
- ✓ If their renewal date is coming up, make sure they are aware.

PHE Flexibilities Ending on May 11, 2023

NOTE: HCBS Appendix K flexibilities do not end until 6 months after the end of the PHE

Providers

- Suspension of provider revalidations
- Suspension of recoupments and payment intercepts
- Temporary provider enrollments
- Use of unlicensed facilities as an alternative location
- Use of a temporary expansion site or other areas that do not comply with requirements
- Use of SNF beds for patients not meeting SNF requirements

Members

- Second Presumptive Eligibility (PE) period in a calendar year

Provider Reimbursement

- Hospital 20% add-on to DRG for COVID-19 diagnosis
- Nursing Facility \$270 per diem add-on

NOTE: This is not a comprehensive list of flexibilities that may end. Some flexibilities are still under review.

PHE Flexibilities Extended

Members

- Disregard for excess resources for LTC members for 12 months past the PHE.
- Period to file an appeal and for the state to make a decision
- Re-enrollment of member to previous MCO if within 120 days

Covered Services

- Required coverage of COVID-19 vaccines, testing and treatments without cost sharing (ARPA)
- Telehealth audio-only, non-HIPAA compliance platforms (CAA, 2023)
- Methadone take-home doses for OUD (SAMSHA extension)

NOTE: This is not a comprehensive list of flexibilities that may be extended. Some flexibilities are still under review.

PHE Flexibilities Permanently Implemented

Provider

- Nurse Aide applicants use of I-9 instead of Social Security Card (907 KAR 1:250)

Covered Services

- Expanded telehealth (907 KAR 3:170)

NOTE: This is not a comprehensive list of flexibilities that may be implemented permanently. Some flexibilities are still under review.

How to stay informed...

Kentucky's Medicaid Renewals and PHE Unwinding Website -
[MedicaidUnwinding.ky.gov](https://www.MedicaidUnwinding.ky.gov)

CHFS Social Media

- Facebook,
- Twitter, and
- Instagram

Stakeholder Meetings

- Ongoing Stakeholder Meetings – 3rd Thursday @ 11:00 ET



Questions