

1 AN ACT relating to Medicaid waiver program coverage for community interveners.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 205 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) As used in this section, "community intervener" means a trained service provider*
6 *who assists an individual who is deaf-blind to access communication,*
7 *environmental information, and community activities through tactile, visual,*
8 *auditory, or other individualized methods, for the purpose of supporting*
9 *independent living, self-determination, and full participation in home and*
10 *community-based settings.*

11 *(2) (a) If approved by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services,*
12 *community interveners shall be a recognized provider type within the*
13 *Michelle P. waiver program, and the Michelle P. waiver program shall*
14 *provide coverage for community intervener services for deaf-blind*
15 *individuals.*

16 *(b) The Department for Medicaid Services shall, within ninety (90) days after*
17 *receiving approval from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid*
18 *Services to cover community intervener services in the Michelle P. waiver*
19 *program, promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS*
20 *Chapter 13A to implement this section, including but not limited to:*

- 21 *1. Training and qualification requirements for community interveners;*
- 22 *2. The provider enrollment process for community interveners;*
- 23 *3. Services that community interveners are permitted to provide; and*
- 24 *4. Reimbursement rates for services provided by a community intervener.*

25 ➔Section 2. If the Cabinet for Health and Family Services or the Department for
26 Medicaid Services determines that a state plan amendment, waiver, or any other form of
27 authorization or approval from any federal agency to implement Section 1 of this Act is

1 necessary to prevent the loss of federal funds or to comply with federal law, the cabinet
2 or department:

3 (1) Shall, within 90 days after the effective date of this section, request the
4 necessary federal authorization or approval to implement Section 1 of this Act; and

5 (2) May only delay implementation of the provisions of Section 1 of this Act for
6 which federal authorization or approval was deemed necessary until the federal
7 authorization or approval is granted.

8 ➔Section 3. Sections 1 and 2 of this Act shall constitute the specific authorization
9 required under KRS 205.5372(1).