

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



Office of the Director

December 5, 2019

Calder Lynch
Acting Deputy Administrator and Deputy Director
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
7500 Security Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21244

Jack Nocito
Program Officer
Division of System Reform Demonstrations
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
7500 Security Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21244

Francis McCullough
Director
Division of Medicaid Field Operations East
Regional Operations Group
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Suite 216, The Public Ledge Building
150 South Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Msrs. Lynch, Nocito and McCullough,

Thank you for your consideration and approval of the District's Behavioral Health Transformation Demonstration on November 6, 2019. This letter serves as the District of Columbia's official acceptance of the Special Terms and Conditions (STCs) as set forth in CMS's approval letter on November 6, 2019 regarding the District's Behavioral Health Transformation Demonstration, as revised in the attached document with proposed technical corrections and comments.

One key outstanding point of clarification needed is ensuring that the current STCs appropriately provide expenditure authority for inpatient IMD services provided to non-elderly adults with SMI and SUD. The District respectfully requests confirmation from CMS that such expenditures are authorized.

Letter to Msrs Lynch, Nocito, and McCullough
RE: STCs for DC's Behavioral Health Transformation Demonstration
December 5, 2019
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This demonstration shows the District's commitment to fighting opioid and substance abuse and building a system of care that meets the behavioral health needs of District residents. With this demonstration, the District aims to transform Medicaid behavioral health services, by expanding the array of evidence-based services to treat District residents with a serious mental illness, serious emotional disturbance, substance use disorder, or other behavioral health needs.

The District appreciates your agency's leadership in this initiative in establishing this option for states and in entrusting the District to be the first demonstration approved with joint SUD and SMI authority under CMS' new guidance. The District also acknowledges CMS staff's helpful support on the project provided throughout the review and approval process to help the District meet its goal of implementation on January 1, 2020.

The District looks forward to working with CMS to support successful implementation of the demonstration. If you have any questions or concerns about the proposed technical corrections, please contact Alice Weiss at alice.weiss@dc.gov or 202-442-9107.

Sincerely,



Melisa Byrd
Medicaid Director and Senior Deputy Director
Department of Health Care Finance

Cc: Frankeena Wright McGuire, Lieutenant Commander, US Public Health Service, Division of Medicaid Field Operations East, Regional Operations Group