

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



February 20, 2013

Justin Senior
State of Florida, Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive, Mail Stop 8
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Dear Justin:

I am writing to memorialize the work we have accomplished together to date on Florida's request to amend its section 1115 demonstration, titled, Medicaid Reform, demonstration number 11-W-00206/4. We have made significant progress in agreeing upon terms of a demonstration that will ensure access to high quality health care services for Florida's Medicaid beneficiaries. We are eager to continue working together and have reached agreement in principle on granting the waiver.

Moving ahead, we look forward to developing and incorporating into the terms and conditions of the demonstration amendment:

- Assurance of a comprehensive quality strategy that reflects the health needs of Florida beneficiaries across the state's Medicaid program at large, that has specific data-driven achievable goals and strategies, and that is aligned with the broader goals of improving care, improving health and lowering cost through these improvements. We have just received additional materials from you on this topic that we are now reviewing, and we appreciate that Florida has incorporated into its competitive procurement a large number of quality measures from our core set of health quality measures for both adults and children;
- Clarification and enhancements of the monitoring and evaluation plans to ensure a rigorous and independent evaluation, and development of rapid cycle, transparent monitoring in order to ensure continuous progress towards quality improvement; and
- Development of enhanced stakeholder engagement strategies to ensure that the state is able to benefit from robust community input from beneficiaries and their advocates, providers and other state stakeholders in the management of the demonstration.

As we also have discussed, we will work together to ensure that a robust independent consumer support program is in operation to help beneficiaries navigate and access long term care services and supports so that beneficiary concerns are identified and addressed. Florida has some existing capabilities that could potentially provide for this kind of function, and we should continue to discuss whether this activity should be assured in the 1115 waiver or through an amendment to the recent 1915(b)(c) approval.

We look forward to working with you further on these topics as part of our effort to reach a final agreement on the demonstration. Please feel free to call me if you have concerns or questions as we continue our discussions.

Sincerely,

/s/

Cindy Mann
Director