

201 South Grand Avenue East
Springfield, Illinois 62763-0002

Telephone: (217) 782-1200
TTY: (800) 526-5812

January 29, 2014

Ms. Shanna Wiley
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services
Mail Stop: S2-01-16
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Dear Ms. Wiley,

I am writing to advise you that the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) acknowledges the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) award of the Illinois / Cook County CountyCare 1115 demonstration (Project Number 11-W-00281/5). In addition, HFS accepts the special terms and conditions (STCs) applicable to the demonstration and requests that these STCs and the demonstration continue through June 30, 2014, as referenced in your letter.

We appreciate your willingness to work with us during this important transitional time for CountyCare members.

In accepting these terms and conditions, we assume that:

- The evaluation work and the waiver hypothesis and evaluation work under the waiver extension will be combined with the hypothesis and evaluation under the 10/26/12 STCs, for efficiency. The state does not plan to submit a new evaluation plan.
- There are no new public notice requirements as a result of this extension, except for the post award forum that we will host, as required by waiver extension requirement #8.
- Unless specifically included in the 12/30/13 waiver extension STCs, the 10/26/12 STCs are no longer applicable except if they are related to reporting, evaluation and payment reconciliation. For example:
 - The 10/26/12 set of STCs provision that limited CountyCare Application Assistor organizations to network PCP sites is no longer applicable. CountyCare is adding a social service entity as an Assistor organization.
 - The 10/26/12 STCs provision that limited retroactive coverage for months prior to the application month to CCHHS providers is no longer applicable. Beginning January 1, 2014, CountyCare months of fee for service and PMPM coverage will operate as other health plans serving Medicaid populations do - with prior month coverage not being limited to certain providers.

We also request that CMS grant the additional three-month temporary waiver extension to June 30, 2013. This is the extension that was mentioned in Director Mann's December 30, 2013, waiver extension letter. We believe that this is the alternative that is most consistent with the health reform initiatives that the state is advancing and is in the best interests of members. For planning purposes for both the State and County and to appropriately notify members, we respectfully request approval of this extension by February 19, 2014. We would be glad to discuss this request at any time and would appreciate your expedited consideration.

We look forward to continuing to work in partnership on this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Theresa Eagleson.

Theresa Eagleson, Administrator
Division of Medical Programs

cc: Verlon Johnson