



## Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

### Office of the Secretary

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STATE OF MARYLAND

October 24, 2017

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GOVERNOR

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The Honorable Edward J. Kasemeyer  
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
3 West, Miller State Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1911

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh  
Chair, House Appropriations Committee  
Room 121, House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1911

RE: Joint Chairmen's Report – Q00A Office of the Secretary – Medicaid Enrollment

Dear Chairman Kasemeyer and Chairman McIntosh:

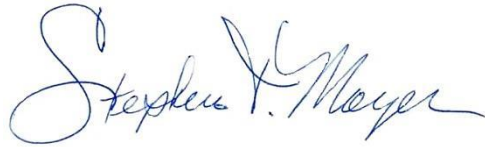
The 2017 Joint Chairmen's Report requires the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to submit a progress report on how the Medicaid enrollment efforts have improved, the number of inmates enrolled, and any other pertinent cost data and performance measures. The following language requirements can be found on page 118 of the 2017 Joint Chairmen's Report.

**Medicaid Enrollment:** The Affordable Care Act's Medicaid expansion enables states to enroll former inmates into the program. To assist with the enrollment efforts, the department submitted a Request for Proposals and will retain a contractor due to start on July 1, 2017. The department should submit a progress report to the budget committees on how the Medicaid enrollment efforts have improved, the number of former inmates enrolled, and any other pertinent cost data and performance measures. The report is due to the budget committees by November 1, 2017.

Attached is the Department's submission in satisfaction of the reporting requirements.

I hope this letter and the attachments meet with your approval. If the Department or I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Director of Legislative Affairs, Rachel Sessa at 410-339-5022.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen T. Moyer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S".

Stephen T. Moyer  
Secretary

Attachment: Medicaid Enrollment

cc: Senator James E. DeGrange, Sr., Chair, Senate Public Safety, Transportation,  
and Environment Subcommittee  
Delegate Keith Haynes, Chair, House Subcommittee on Public Safety and  
Administration  
Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
Members of the House Committee on Appropriations  
Mr. Matthew Clark, Chief of Staff, Governor's Office  
Mr. Christopher Shank, Governor's Chief Legislative Officer  
Mr. Kenneth Weaver, Policy Analyst, Department of Legislative Services  
Mr. Kyle Mansfield, Budget Analyst, Department of Budget and Management  
Mr. Matthew Bennett, Counsel to the Budget and Taxation Committee  
Mr. Matthew Jackson, Counsel to the Appropriations Committee  
Ms. Cathy Kramer, Department of Legislative Services  
Ms. Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
CORRECTIONAL SERVICES**

Medicaid Enrollment

November 2017

Governor Larry Hogan  
Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford  
Secretary Stephen T. Moyer

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

In the 2018 Joint Chairman's Report, in the language on page 118, the Budget Committees made the following request:

The Affordable Care Act's Medicaid expansion enables states to enroll former inmates into the program. To assist with the enrollment efforts, the department submitted a Request for Proposals and will retain a contractor due to start on July 1, 2017. The department should submit a progress report to the budget committees on how the Medicaid enrollment efforts have improved, the number of former inmates enrolled, and any other pertinent cost data and performance measures. The report is due to the budget committees by November 1, 2017.

## **II. Requests for Proposal – Inmate Medical Care and Utilization Services**

As a part of its continuing efforts to increase the number of Medicaid enrollments for Inmates prior to their release, the Department included provisions specific to enrollment in its solicitation for Inmate Medical Care and Utilization Services. The Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued on December 29, 2016. Specifically, the RFP calls for the following under Section 3.42, *Release*:

- 3.42.5 Upon notification of the release of any Inmate, the Contractor shall complete and submit all required forms to enroll the Inmate in the presumed eligible program for Medicaid. If the Inmate has an assigned Medicaid number before release and the DPSCS Chief Medical Officer approves, the Contractor need not provide release medication. Appropriate Contractor Staff shall also meet with the Inmate prior to release to discuss any release orders for that Inmate.
  - 3.42.6 In addition to enrolling Inmates in the presumed eligible program for Medicaid, the Contractor will provide a Medicaid enrollment program for Inmates utilizing a consumer assistance organization approved by the Maryland Health Connection. For Inmates who are housed more than 30 days, Contractor shall complete and submit the Medicaid application and secure a Medicaid number. The Contractor shall also provide "wraparound" services that include first appointment completion, substance abuse enrollment, mental health services, and other health related re-entry services.
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On April 19, 2017, Amendment #7 was added to the solicitation that removed the requirement for the utilization of a consumer assistance organization as stipulated in subsection 3.42.6 of the RFP and changed the language to read:

- 3.42.6 In addition to enrolling Inmates in the presumed eligible program for Medicaid, the Contractor will provide a Medicaid enrollment program for Inmates **by qualifying as a Certified Application Counselor Sponsoring Entity approved by the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange. As soon as possible after Contract Commencement but no later than 30 days after the Go-Live Date, Contractor shall become a Certified Application Counselor Sponsoring Entity. Contractor shall provide at least 17 full-time certified application counselors with seven counselors assigned to the Baltimore SDA, five assigned to the Western SDA, three assigned to Jessup and two assigned to the Eastern SDA.** For Inmates who are housed more than 30 days, Contractor shall complete and submit the Medicaid application and secure a Medicaid number. The Contractor shall also provide “wraparound” services that include first appointment completion documentation, substance abuse enrollment, mental health services, and other health related re-entry services.

The Opening Bid date for the Inmate Medical Care and Utilization Services solicitation was May 10, 2017. The contract has been recommended for award, but protests have been filed by offerors not recommended for the award.

## **II. Enrollment Trends**

Over the past two fiscal years, the Department has experienced an upward trend in the number of Inmates enrolled in Medicaid prior to their release. Enrollments are completed by Medical Contractor Staff and by the Department’s Social Workers who have been certified as Certified Application Counselors (CAC). While the Contractor focuses on enrolling the general inmate population, the Department’s Social Workers focus on the Special Needs Population.

- During FY 2016, the Medical Contractor successfully enrolled a total of 1,755 inmates in Medicaid. In FY 2017, the Medical Contractor was able to successfully enroll a total of 2,198 inmates in Medicaid, representing an increase of 25.24 percent.
- In FY 2016, the Social Work Department successfully enrolled 188 Special Needs Inmates in Medicaid. The number of successful Medicaid enrollments for FY 2017 was 278, representing an increase of 47.87 percent.

## **III. Moving Forward**

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The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) was recently granted a waiver of Sections 1920(e) and 1902(a)(1) and (10)(B) of the Social Security Act in order to provide Presumptive Eligibility (PE) for Medicaid eligible individuals leaving jail or prison. Individuals enrolled through the PE process receive Medicaid coverage for a 60-day period.

MDH proposed a regulation to the Administrative Executive, and Legislative Review (AELR) Committee that establishes procedures entities must follow for PE enrollment. Presumptive Eligibility enrollment will be utilized for those inmates who were denied Medicaid benefits during the online application process thus increasing the number of inmates eligible to receive Medicaid benefits immediately upon release. The regulation titled – COMAR 10.09.79, *Presumptive Eligibility for Correctional Facilities* – was issued on May 26, 2017 in Volume 44, Issue 11 of the Maryland Register. The closing date for comments was June 26, 2017.

Once the Department's Inmate Medical Care and Utilization Services contractor is in place, the contractor will follow these regulations pursuant to their contract to enroll eligible inmates leaving prison through either the full Medicaid enrollment process or through PE depending upon the eligibility of the inmate. The Department will continue to monitor Medicaid enrollment figures moving forward.

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