



BEACON SPECIALIZED LIVING SERVICES, INC.

We are writing on behalf of the Michigan Medical Care Advisory Council to express our strong support for long-term continuation of the Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP). We are supporting the approval of Michigan's second waiver with recommended safeguards and protections for beneficiaries.

We recognize that the provisions of this second waiver will impact only a small percentage of the program enrollees, but without approval of the second waiver, the program would end for all 600,000 current enrollees due to the stipulations of the state law creating the Healthy Michigan Program. In any given month, only 15% to 18% of the enrollees have incomes greater than 100% of the federal poverty level and would be affected by the second waiver. Further, the number of HMP enrollees who are exempt from cost sharing or who have 48 cumulative months of enrollment will reduce the number of impacted enrollees even more. Clarification also needs to be stipulated in the terms and conditions that in order to meet the provisions of the second waiver, a beneficiary must have not only 48 cumulative months of enrollment, but for each of the counted 48 months, the family/individual's income must exceed 100% FPL. This requirement would provide protection for those beneficiaries with fluctuating incomes at or near the poverty line and could be specified in the waiver terms and conditions.

The Council is committed to working with the Department to ensure this critical program provides comprehensive affordable coverage to low-income Michigan residents.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment and offer our support of this very successful program. We strongly support Michigan's second waiver with the safeguards and protections for beneficiaries as outlined by the Michigan Medical Care Advisory Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenny Ratzlaff, CEO/President
Beacon Specialized Living Services, Inc.

