



One Hurley Plaza
Flint, Michigan 48503

September 29, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Hurley Medical Center (HMC), we are expressing our strong support for the continuation of the Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP). HMC is a 443 bed hospital located in Flint, Michigan. We are considered the safety net hospital in Genesee County, with almost half of our patients being covered by Medicaid.

The Affordable Care Act has provided much needed coverage to the most vulnerable people in Michigan, with over 600,000 in the state and 34,000 in Genesee County. As a result of the Healthy Michigan Plan, these newly covered beneficiaries have dependable access to affordable healthcare services. Some have discovered serious illness and can now access treatment. Others have taken advantage of opportunities to access preventative care and set health maintenance or improvement goals.

Michigan law requires approval of the amended 1115 waiver as a condition of continuing coverage for HMP beneficiaries. For individuals remaining in the HMP after 48 months of cumulative eligibility, the amendment continues the comprehensive benefit package and potentially increases out-of-pocket expense for the beneficiaries with an income level between 100 and 133 percent of the federal poverty level. The maximum out-of-pocket expense for an individual is 7 percent of annual income, which includes the contribution to the HPM premium. However, these amounts may be significantly reduced if the beneficiary participates in healthy behavior activities encouraged in the HMP.

While we recognize that this cost-sharing adjustment is not insignificant for the small group of beneficiaries it would impact, we are committed to ensuring high levels of beneficiary participation in the activities that can reduce out-of-pocket expenses. We are very concerned that if this amendment is not approved the HMP will be eliminated and many people will be without access to appropriate, affordable healthcare.

Hurley Medical Center is strongly committed to Michigan Medicaid expansion through HMP, which has also helped cut HMC's uninsured rate by more than half. We take great pride in the privilege to care for the most vulnerable in Genesee County and funding through HMP insurance makes this mission achievable.

We will work with the Michigan Department of Health and Human services, and other partner organizations in Michigan, to assist Michigan's HMP beneficiaries in maintenance and improvement of their health status in a cost-effective and affordable way.

Hurley Medical Center encourages you to approve the Michigan Section 1115 Demonstration waiver amendment as soon as possible to ensure continued success of Michigan's coverage expansion under the Affordable Care Act. Please contact us at your convenience at (810) 262-6887 if you have any questions about our support for this amendment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melany Gavulic".

Melany Gavulic
President & CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cass Wisniewski".

Cass Wisniewski
Vice President & CFO

Clinical Excellence. Service to People.