



Executive Office of Health & Human Services
74 West Road-Hazard Building
Cranston, RI
02920

August 27, 2015

Tim Engelhardt, Acting Director
CMS Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20201

RE: Medicare-Medicaid Financial Alignment Extension Opportunity

Dear Mr. Engelhardt:

We greatly appreciate CMS' continued support with the Financial Alignment Demonstration in Rhode Island. With the recent signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, we are optimistic that EOHHS, CMS, and Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island can work together to successfully implement the Demonstration and improve the care and outcomes of Rhode Island's Medicare-Medicaid beneficiaries.

In response to your July 16, 2015 memo regarding the Medicare-Medicaid Financial Alignment Extension Opportunity, I am writing to indicate our interest in extending the scheduled end date for the Demonstration in Rhode Island. As described in your memo, an extension would provide much needed time to assess the impact of the Demonstration before determining whether to cease the initiative and would minimize any unnecessary disruption to beneficiaries while this evaluation is being conducted.

We look forward to working with CMS to make any changes necessary to accommodate this extension. I can be reached at (401) 462-6369 or Deidre.Gifford@ohhs.ri.gov if you need any further information.

Sincerely,

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Medicaid Director

DSG/lcs

