



September 21, 2014

The Honorable Sylvia Mathews Burwell, Secretary
U.S Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Burwell:

On behalf of Covering Kids and Families of Indiana, I am pleased to submit this letter expressing our organization's support of the HIP 2.0 coverage expansion plan put forth by the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA).

Established in 1997 as a grantee of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Covering Kids and Families of Indiana (CKF-IN) now has seven local coalitions serving 31 of Indiana's highest-need counties. Our coalitions provide critically-needed outreach and enrollment into Indiana's public health coverage programs including Medicaid, Hoosier Healthwise, the Children's Health Insurance Program, the Healthy Indiana Plan, and ACA Marketplace plans.

If approved, the HIP 2.0 proposal stands to benefit up to 450,000 uninsured Hoosiers, according to a Milliman analysis. Every day, our CKF-IN coalition staff sees firsthand the impact of this coverage gap—and daily must inform clients that they are ineligible for health care. We know firsthand the burden this gap poses for this medically and socially vulnerable population, and while we recognize no proposal is perfect, we believe HIP 2.0 will achieve the greater good of coverage for Hoosiers who have nothing today.

Covering Kids and Families of Indiana stands ready to assist with HIP 2.0 implementation as soon as it is approved. Our capacity includes:

- Our coalitions possess exceptional knowledge of Indiana health coverage programs, and are prepared to ably assist consumers in understanding HIP 2.0's tiers of coverage, cost-sharing requirements, and plan selection.
- We will work closely with our statewide network of partners—including hospitals and health centers, provider groups, community service agencies, schools, and others—to disseminate best practice enrollment information, technical assistance, and other resources related to the effective implementation of HIP 2.0.
- Our Marketing Committee will include HIP 2.0 information in its statewide TV, print, radio, and other media campaigns.



- We are partnering with the Indiana Hospital Association to launch robust training and technical assistance efforts related to Hospital Presumptive Eligibility and to boost enrollment and retention in this important program. We recognize the role HPE will have in ensuring timely and low-barrier access to care and we are committed to its success in Indiana.

We appreciate your consideration of our comments, and urge your expedited approval of this important proposal. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at nnapoli@ckfindiana.org, or our Director of Policy and Communication, Caitlin Priest, at cpriest@ckfindiana.org.

Sincerely,

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