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**State Demonstrations Group**

October 19, 2016

Stephen P. Miller  
Commissioner  
Department for Medicaid Services  
275 East Main Street, 6 West A  
Frankfort, KY 40621

Dear Mr. Miller:

Thank you for your recent section 1115 demonstration application entitled, “Kentucky HEALTH: Helping to Engage and Achieve Long Term Health.” In accordance with federal requirements, Kentucky’s section 1115 demonstration application was posted for public comment on the Medicaid.gov website for a 30-day federal comment period from September 8 through October 8, 2016.

To date, we have received over 1,800 comments on the state’s application. This high level of interest was also evident during the state comment period, leading the Kentucky Department for Medicaid Services to extend the public comment period to provide additional time for comments prior to the state submitting the application to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently received a request to provide an extension of the comment deadline to give all interested Kentuckians the opportunity to share their views.

While our rules do not provide for formally extending the federal comment period, as a matter of practice CMS has generally reviewed and considered all public comments received prior to rendering a final decision. Moreover, given the large volume of comments already received, we know that we will need time to carefully consider the public input and discuss it with you. Accordingly, we wanted to let you know that we plan to continue considering comments submitted after the original close of the federal comment period. We will share this information with those who have asked us about the comment deadline.

We look forward to working with you on your demonstration proposal and are prepared to continue our dialogue for as long as it takes to find a solution that continues progress for the people of Kentucky.

Sincerely,

/s/

Eliot Fishman  
Director

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cc: Jackie Glaze, Associate Regional Administrator, CMS Atlanta Regional Office