

December 12, 2023

The Honorable Daniel Tsai Deputy Administrator and Director Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services 7500 Security Boulevard Baltimore, MD 21244

Dear Director Tsai,

As members of the Connecting to Coverage Coalition (<u>CCC</u>), we are writing to thank you for your commitment to Medicaid redeterminations and historic efforts at reporting and data transparency. We are writing to request that the Centers for Medicaie & Medicaid Services (CMS) work with State Medicaid agencies to continue this reporting past the unwinding period, and develop a glidepath to make additional information and data pertaining to Medicaid renewals publicly available.

The CCC is a national coalition committed to being a single source of trusted information about the Medicaid redetermination process. The CCC also works to convene stakeholders to support information sharing, build on best practices, and develop solutions to ensure Americans can enroll in coverage that is right for themselves and their families. By working together, the CCC supports a smooth transition back to normal Medicaid eligibility during this unprecedented redetermination process, connect Americans to resources, and help them connect to coverage through other available health insurance. The member organizations of the CCC are committed to working with our federal and state partners and being part of solutions to protect against people becoming uninsured as a result of the unwinding process, especially among children and at-risk adults.

We share your belief that the Medicaid program remains the nation's primary health care safety net for many Americans, and it is critical that people eligible for Medicaid remain covered. For those individuals no longer eligible for Medicaid, it is essential that resources and policies are in place to ensure they are seamlessly connected to coverage, either through the Marketplace, employer-sponsored coverage, separate coverage under the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), or Medicare. We appreciate the historic and unprecedented nature of the Medicaid unwinding and applaud the leadership that CMS has provided to address the ongoing challenges states face during this time. We also acknowledge and are grateful for the immense work that states have done thus far to redetermine Medicaid and CHIP eligibility for their programs, and we appreciate the ongoing collaboration between CMS and states to improve the process particularly around improved data.

To that end, the CCC would like to encourage CMS to utilize its existing authorities to continue to collect and publish this important data, even after unwinding has ended.



In addition to continuing the existing reporting, we request that CMS work with states to stratify the data they report, and make publicly available, to better track how vulnerable populations are experiencing redeterminations. Specifically, we request CMS work with states on a glidepath to producing Medicaid renewal data for the following populations:

- Children;
- Dually eligible individuals;
- Pregnant and postpartum women, and
- The aged, blind, or disabled eligibility group.

We also believe that it is important for states to report to CMS, and for it to be publicly available, information pertaining to **Medicaid beneficiaries whose coverage has been reinstated after being previously terminated**.

Finally, to better understand the impact of Medicaid unwinding on minority communities to promote health equity, the CCC requests that CMS **encourage states to report the information described above, disaggregated by race and ethnicity**. We understand the challenges states face in collecting information pertaining to race and ethnicity and believe that state reporting of information disaggregated by a beneficiary's preferred language may provide similar insight into the impact unwinding may have on minority communities.

We greatly appreciate that many states are already sharing some of the data requested above on their own state dashboards. We believe that if CMS can work with states to report this data uniformly, it will be even more valuable.

We strongly believe this data will provide valuable insights into access to coverage and will greatly assist in ensuring that individuals continue to have access to the health insurance coverage for which they are eligible. Thank you for your continued commitment to ensuring that individuals have access to health care coverage for which they are eligible. We look forward to continuing to work with you and State Medicaid agencies during this unprecedented time.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics American Association of People with Disabilities American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Association for Community Affiliated Plans Alliance of Community Health Plans American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network American Health Care Association|National Center for Assisted Living AHIP American Medical Association



Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs Blue Cross Blue Shield Association Cancer Support Community Catholic Health Association of the United States Community Catalyst Federation of American Hospitals Healthcare Leadership Council Huntington's Disease Society of America Mental Health America Medicaid Health Plans of America National Alliance on Mental Illness National Association of Community Health Centers National Council for Mental Wellbeing The Arc of the United States