

Anu Gary

From: Ronald Cink
Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 2:55 PM
To: Wayne Dyess; Anu Gary
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL> Medicaid for County Inmates - Pilot Program
Attachments: Act 2017-298.PDF; Webinar February 20 2018.pptx; Medicaid and County Commission MOU (Baldwin County Final Draft) 12.13.2019.docx

Can we generate an agenda item approving the MOU? We have been trying to get this pilot program off the ground for quite some time. This has tremendous savings potential for the county.

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From: Morgan Arrington [mailto:MArrington@alabamacounties.org]
Sent: Tuesday, January 07, 2020 12:09 PM
To: Ronald Cink <RCink@baldwincountyal.gov>
Subject: <EXTERNAL> Medicaid for County Inmates - Pilot Program

Ron,

I hope you enjoyed a little downtime during the holidays. I was able to spend a few extra days with my girls and I enjoyed every second of it!

We spoke briefly at the Legislative Conference about the Medicaid for County Inmates program. I wanted to circle back to that conversation in hopes that Baldwin County may be willing to continue to help with that program. As you may recall, the legislature passed a bill in 2017 which provides that Medicaid benefits should be suspended, but not terminated, for certain county jail inmates under certain circumstances. (Act 2017-298 attached for reference). Although the law included aggressive deadlines related to the implementation of the program, here we are today without a functioning program. A host of factors have played into the delays, but we remain committed to the idea that this could be a valuable resource to counties.

In 2018, the ACCA agreed with the Alabama Medicaid Agency to roll out only a pilot program with just a few participating counties. The hope was that the pilot program would allow us to learn how the larger program would work in practice and permit us to work out the inevitable technical glitches. Baldwin County and others entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Alabama Medicaid Agency for the "pilot period." Unfortunately, the technical aspects of implementing the program proved to be too many to resolve during the limited duration of the MOU.

We find ourselves in a place where the legal documentation between the Alabama Medicaid Agency and the counties has expired, effectively putting an end to all testing. The Association requests that Baldwin County recommit to the pilot program and again participate in our efforts to get this program operational. At this juncture, we are asking only Baldwin County to participate in the pilot program. We are optimistic that the flow of data between your county and the Medicaid Agency will allow us to resolve the remaining technical issues plaguing the program.

The attached MOU is nearly identical to the agreement signed by Baldwin County in 2018. The important difference is found in enumerated paragraph 1 related to the term of the contract. This version establishes a maximum term of three

years, (____, 2020 through ____ 2023), whereas the prior version was limited to one year. We HOPE that the pilot does not continue until 2023, but we do want to maximize the term of the agreement that the Medicaid Agency could enter into so that we do not deal with the same "expiration" issues as we have now. If the county is willing to participate, we need the attached **Medicaid and County Commission MOU (Baldwin County Final Draft) 12.13.2019** signed and returned to us.

I am attaching a PowerPoint that identifies the process we will continue to use to share data under this pilot program. Baldwin County was always responsive to our requests for test data during 2018, but if we need to provide any technical assistance we stand ready to do so.

We appreciate your willingness to share this with the decision makers in Baldwin County. We would very much appreciate the participation of Baldwin County to help get this program operational.

Thanks so much,



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