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Director Barbara Sears  
Ohio Department of Medicaid  
50 West Town Street, Suite 400  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Director Sears:

Thank you for taking the time to meet with LeadingAge Ohio last month to discuss our concerns regarding the Administration's proposal to transition long term services and supports from the current fee-for-service structure to a managed care program beginning July 1, 2018. The opportunity to discuss with you and your team the Department's RFA design and process provided us with better assurance that the proposal will be vastly different than the existing MyCare Ohio program. We appreciated the ability to offer feedback on an MLTSS procurement that will address important payment concerns, quality outcomes and other key parameters needed by long-term services and supports providers. Based on the feedback we have received from the Department on the issues raised by LeadingAge Ohio, we believe you have not only acknowledged our concerns but have provided specifics regarding how the Department plans to address many of the issues.

Upon consideration of the meaningful and productive efforts of the parties, we are pleased to share that LeadingAge Ohio supports the Administration's MLTSS proposal to reward providers for quality and incentivize innovation and value across all long term care settings. At this time we would like to continue the work we have begun with the Department to implement an MLTSS program for Ohio's most vulnerable population-- one that aligns with our mission to advance aging solutions for successful living.

We recognize there is still a great deal of work ahead, but we believe a collaborative approach to align both the providers of aging services across the continuum and the payors will deliver the best outcomes for those we serve. More importantly, this collaboration will help us find opportunities to address a rapidly aging population with diminishing resources that cannot be sustained in the current siloed fee-for-service environment. Having said that, we are concerned about the timeline for implementation, and we ask the Department to work with us immediately to outline the necessary steps to ensure a smooth transition for recipients, their families and providers.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. We are looking forward to our next meeting to continue our work together.

Kind regards,

  
Kathryn L. Brod  
President/CEO