

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health
Medical Assistance Administration



MEMORANDUM

TO: Julie Hudman
Office of the City Administrator

FROM: Robert T. Maruca
Senior Deputy Director
Medical Assistance Administration

DATE: April 6, 2007

SUBJECT: One Hundred (100) Day Plan

The Department of Health (DOH), Medical Assistance Administration (MAA), has accomplished the activities below listed regarding the following specific goal in the one hundred (100) Day Plan:

Goal: Explore developing a model that would allow the Alliance to provide supplemental coverage to eligible residents who have inadequate coverage from other sources, for example for primary and preventive services, without discouraging employers from maintaining or expanding their contribution to insurance/100 Days.

Activities Accomplished:

1. Met with MAA senior staff for discussion of future models for health care in DC, with the emphasis on covering new populations. We discussed various Medicaid program expansions in other states and their applicability to DC. We decided to ask George Washington University (GWU) School of Public Health, who is contracting with us on health policy issues, to review some of these models. This will be done in conjunction with their project to review and make recommendations on Council mandated Healthy DC Program, which is a program of expansion of health coverage for DC residents. The

Healthy DC Program is a very specific program and GWU will be looking at nationwide models for us to make recommendations on how the Healthy DC Program can be modified to make it a more functional health care program for DC residents.

2. We have had discussions with Martin Hamlette, Mayor's Health Policy Advisor, and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), regarding buy-in programs for the Alliance and/or Medicaid to explore ways to cover low income uninsured in the District. MAA is waiting on SEIU to provide information on a coverage template and specific information on population size and demographics before further evaluation.
3. Discussions have been held with the DOH Maternal and Primary care Administration regarding coverage for cancer in women and how the Project Wish Program might be more closely aligned with the Medicaid and Alliance programs. After review, it appears that the current Medicaid and Alliance programs fully cover women's cancer screens and the Project Wish Program should be maintained at coverage levels above 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL) to the limit allowed by the federal grant, 250% FPL.
4. Discussions have been held with the DOH HIV/Aids Administration regarding coverage of HIV screening and testing in Medicaid and the Alliance. While screen and testing is currently being accomplished, this was strengthened in the recently released Medicaid and Alliance Request for Proposal (RFP) for Managed Care Organizations. The RFP reads as follows: "Services related to the screening, testing, diagnosis, counseling and treatment of HIV/AIDS are Medically Necessary. Contractor shall participate in DOH's initiatives regarding HIV/AIDS."

MAA will continue to work closely with other DOH organizations, other DC government agencies and community groups to further explore ways to supplement health care coverage for eligible DC residents.