

March 23, 2017

Kimberly Xavier
Planning, Policy & Quality Unit
Division of Medicaid & Medical Assistance
1901 N. DuPont Hwy.
P.O. Box 906
New Castle, DE 19720-0906

RE: DMMA Proposed Medicaid Coverage for Out-of-State Former Foster Youth Regulation [20 DE Reg. 694 (March 1, 2017)]

Dear Ms. Xavier:

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed the Division of Medicaid and Medicare Assistance (DMMA) proposal to provide Medicaid coverage to former foster care youth who have aged out of the foster care system of states besides Delaware. DMMA currently provides Medicaid coverage to former foster care youth who have aged out of the foster care system until age 26 in Delaware. Council **endorses** the expanded coverage.

Council understands that there would be no income or resource cap for this population. Id.

A disproportionate number of foster care youth have disabilities and the transition to adulthood is often difficult. The availability of Medicaid for this group would be a significant support and is similar to the option of youth who remain on their parent's private health insurance through age 26.

Thank you for your consideration of our endorsement and observations. Please contact me or Wendy Strauss at the GACEC office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dafne A. Carnright
Chairperson

DAC:kpc

CC: Tania M. Culley, Esq., Office of the Child Advocate
Steve Yeatman, DSCY&F