

Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) 516 West Loockerman St., Dover, DE 19904 302-739-4553 (voice) 302-739-6126 (fax) <u>http://www.gacec.delaware.gov</u>

May 1, 2019

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

RE: <u>DMMA Proposed State Plan Amendment for Pathways to Employment Program Regulation [22 DE</u> <u>Reg. 871 (April 1, 2019)]</u>

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed the Delaware Health and Social Services (DHHS)/Division of Medicaid and Medicare Assistance (DMMA) proposal to renew the Pathways to Employment Program optional state Medicaid service under Section 1915(i). Council <u>strongly</u> <u>endorses</u> this application for a five year extension.

The Pathways to Employment Program is for individuals diagnosed with Intellectual Disabilities/Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD), or who have visual impairments, autism spectrum disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, and physical disabilities ages 14-25. This state plan amendment (SPA) proposes to increase participation to 600 individuals by 2024 and adds data collection and performance measures regarding assessments of eligibility to the Quality Improvement Strategy section.

The Pathways to Employment Program provides significant supports to youth with disabilities leading to competitive employment and merits our support.

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

Sincerely,

Ann C Físher

Ann C. Fisher Chairperson

ACF:kpc