



September 17, 2014

Secretary Sylvia Matthews Burwell
Department of Health and Human Services
330 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Burwell:

The Indiana Primary Health Care Association (IPHCA) is a leading advocate for access to primary care for all Hoosiers. IPHCA comprises a membership that includes all of Indiana's twenty-three Federally Qualified Community Health Centers (FQHCs) and the majority of Indiana's state-funded community health centers, with more than 110 sites in all major urban areas, as well as many rural communities. Indiana's community health centers (CHCs) provide services to more than 430,000 patients, with more than 1,400,000 health care visits each year. CHCs are directed by Boards of Directors comprising local community leaders and patients.

Community health centers provide primary care, including dental and behavioral health, to all, regardless of ability to pay. CHCs accept Medicaid, Medicare, private insurance, and self-pay; those with limited income are offered reduced prices through a locally established and prominently displayed sliding fee scale. Our member organizations comprise an essential component of Indiana's safety net health care resources. As such, the CHCs will be the providers of care to a significant proportion of Hoosiers who enroll in the proposed HIP 2.0 program.

IPHCA supports the Administration's proposed expansion of coverage for uninsured Hoosiers through HIP 2.0. The proposed waiver application is, we believe, a sound and well-planned approach that will address the needs of Indiana's uninsured citizens in an effective manner.

Indiana's plan to provide three different means of coverage through HIP 2.0 will provide an interesting experiment in consumerism, personal responsibility, and accountability. The State of Indiana will collect and analyze information deemed necessary to measure and evaluate the outcomes of the three components of HIP 2.0. IPHCA's membership is willing and able to participate in such evaluation processes as needed.

In conclusion, IPHCA congratulates Governor Pence and the entire Administration for this innovative approach to expanding health care coverage for Indiana's uninsured citizens, and we urge your approval of the program as proposed. Indiana's Community Health Centers, including both the state's FQHCs and our state-funded health centers, stand ready to work with all parties in ensuring the success of HIP 2.0.

Sincerely,

Philip L. Morphew, CEO
Indiana Primary Health Care Association (IPHCA)
429 N. Pennsylvania Street, Suite 333
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: 317-630-0845
Fax: 317-630-0849
pmorphew@indianapca.org <http://www.indianapca.org/>