



Delivering Excellence Every Day



January 24, 2008

Paul Belcher
Senior Vice President
Florida Hospital Association
306 E. College Avenue
Tallahassee, FL. 32301

Dear Mr. Belcher:

The Miami-Dade County Office of Countywide Healthcare Planning (MDC OCHP) and BlueCross BlueShield of Florida (BCBSF) are pleased to jointly submit to the Low Income Pool Council a formal response to your follow up questions. Led by Commissioner Joe Martinez, OCHP and BCBSF presented our joint request for \$20 million in Low Income Pool Funding (State FY 2008-2009) which will partially fund the County's creation of a subsidy program that enable its poorest residents to participate in our new collaborative, low cost insurance product.

This low cost product represents a unique and innovative partnership between MDC, BCBSF (the State's largest private insurer) and the State of Florida. This partnership is designed to jointly create and promote a limited benefit plan attracting 20,000 to 50,000 uninsured residents in the first year of the MDC Pilot Health Insurance Product. Please note that this program is still under design. The final design of the program is subject to the approval of the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners.

The program directly supports the Medicaid Waiver strategy enabling LIP funding to be used to subsidize health insurance premiums for low-income residents, promotes wellness, improved access to primary care and personal responsibility. Perhaps most importantly, it creates a significant learning opportunity to test a new public policy approach to financing indigent health care in the State of Florida.

Attached you will find a complete PowerPoint description of the program and responses to the questions that were asked by the LIP Council during our presentation on January 11th. Please note that the projected enrollment and premium included in this transmittal will change as we continue to advance the development of the insurance product that will be offered. The projected enrollment and premium required reflect our best available estimates at this time.

We want to thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our request for funding to support this innovative partnership. Should you have any questions regarding this program please let us know.

Sincerely,



Janet Perkins
Executive Director
Office of Countywide Healthcare Planning



V. Sheffield Kenyon
Director
BlueCross BlueShield of Florida

Cc: The Honorable Charles Crist, Governor of the State of Florida
Miami-Dade County Commissioner Joe Martinez
Alina Hudak, Assistant County Manager, Miami-Dade County
Marvin O'Quinn, President and CEO Jackson Health System
Andrew Agwonobi, M.D. Secretary of the Agency for Health Care Administration
Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., Secretary of the Department of Health and State Surgeon General