



DEPARTMENT OF
BUDGET & MANAGEMENT

MARTIN O'MALLEY
Governor

ANTHONY BROWN
Lieutenant Governor

T. ELOISE FOSTER
Secretary

DAVID C. ROMANS
Deputy Secretary

February 6, 2012

Ms. Jennifer Burnett
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group
7500 Security Boulevard
Mail Stop: S2-14-26
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Dear Ms. Burnett:

Please accept this letter of support for the State Balancing Incentive Payments Program (BIPP) initiative aimed toward increasing access to non-institutionally based long-term services. The Maryland Department of Budget and Management is encouraged by the new BIPP structural changes; including the No Wrong Door/Single Entry Point System (NWD/SEP), Conflict-free Case Management, and the development and use of a Core Standardized Assessment Instrument. The implementation of a new assessment tool, along with developing our Maryland Access Point (MAP) sites to more efficiently act as a single entry point, will allow the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to strengthen the process by which people are evaluated and entered into the most appropriate home and community based services.

We are encouraged that the Maryland Medicaid Program is committed to pursuing this grant program for the additional federal 2% percent match. We look forward to this funding opportunity that will allow the state to reinforce ongoing commitments toward rebalancing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "T. Eloise Foster".

T. Eloise Foster
Secretary

cc: Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary, Department of Health & Mental Hygiene

~Effective Resource Management~

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