



March 15, 2017

Ms. Seema Verma
Administrator
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Ms. Verma:

On behalf of the nation's Medicaid Directors, we wish to congratulate you on your confirmation as Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). We were greatly encouraged to see immediate and significant signals from CMS around ways to improve the state-federal partnership and to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of Medicaid. NAMD recently articulated a set of bipartisan [regulatory priorities](#) much of which appears to be reflected in your recent communications.

We look forward to working with you as you lead CMS in this time of change to the Medicaid program and the wider health care system. As you know, state Medicaid Directors are an expert resource on the many state-led innovations currently under way to transform health care towards a system rewarding value over volume. States are undertaking exciting reform efforts, including pioneering new payment and delivery system models promoting accountability and quality health outcomes, and we hope to maintain and enhance this positive work under your leadership.

As you begin your responsibilities as CMS Administrator, we are formally requesting a face to face meeting between you and your senior staff and the NAMD leadership to discuss how to implement many of our shared goals and how to continue an open and productive dialogue together. Furthermore, we offer up our Association as a resource for you and your staff as states and CMS maintain the drive for continued improvement and sustainability in the Medicaid program. Please do not hesitate to contact NAMD's Executive Director, Matt Salo, on any matter of interest.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CL", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Christian L. Soura
Director
South Carolina Department of Health and
Human Services
President, NAMD

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Judy Mohr Peterson", written in a cursive style.

Judy Mohr Peterson
Med-QUEST Division Administrator
State of Hawaii
Vice President, NAMD