



Louisiana Public Health Institute
Bringing People, Ideas and Resources Together

December 22, 2010

Bruce Greenstein
Secretary
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
P.O. Box 629
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629

Re: Louisiana Medicaid Reform

The Louisiana Public Health Institute (LPHI) supports the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) in its efforts to restructure the Louisiana Medicaid program while preserving the quality and availability of services to patients. Increasing costs and utilization of state Medicaid services and current State budget shortfalls make it vital to identify and develop opportunities for more efficient use of limited state resources and draw down of federal Medicaid funding. In light of this, LPHI agrees with DHH's position that health care services to Medicaid recipients in Louisiana should be managed through community-based coordinated care networks instead of the current fee for service reimbursement model.

In supporting DHH's Medicaid reform, LPHI also requests the following characteristics be included in designing and implementing any reform:

- Direct discussion and input from all stakeholders, including community based primary care providers.
- Emphasis on patient centered medical homes and community based primary care coordination across the continuum of care.
- Increased data sharing across organizations and health care sectors with a focus on improving population health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph D. Kimbrell".

Joseph D. Kimbrell, MA, MSW
Chief Executive Officer