

**MEMORANDUM**  
**OFFICE OF THE**  
**County Executive**  
**COUNTY OF PLACER**

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Holly Heinzen, Chief Assistant County Executive Officer  
By: Bryan Hacker, Senior Management Analyst

DATE: January 22, 2013

SUBJECT: Support Medi-Cal Managed Care Participation in Placer County

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**ACTION REQUESTED**

Authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to sign requested letters of support for health care providers to expand Medi-Cal Managed Care participation into Placer County.

**BACKGROUND**

Under existing Federal and State law, over 25,500 Placer County families and individuals receive health care coverage under the Healthy Families or Medi-Cal programs. To provide access to that health care, providers currently contract with the State to provide health care to individuals and families on the Medi-Cal managed care program and the Healthy Families program. Placer County is currently a "fee-for-service" Medi-Cal county.

Since the State is transitioning Healthy Families members to Medi-Cal managed care, a number of health care providers are applying to participate in counties where they are not currently contracted for Medi-Cal, including Placer County. If these providers are awarded a contract, Healthy Families members from Placer County will be able to keep their existing health care provider to maintain continuity in their health care and all existing and future Medi-Cal recipients will move into a managed care health plan. The managed care approach to healthcare delivery has proven to be more cost effective as well as improve the health outcomes of beneficiaries.

As part of the application for health care providers to expand Medi-Cal Managed Care in Placer County, the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) will extend special consideration to health plans which include letters of support from entities which already operate in the expansion counties or which have "direct impact on county health care operations, Safety Net Providers, local clinics and hospitals." Placer County is one such entity.

Some of the impacted members from Healthy Families are members of local health care providers. The county supports the ability for county residents to maintain existing relationships with their medical providers, as well as, make managed care health plans available to our Medi-Cal recipients. As such, the county supports the request from health care providers to expand Medi-Cal Managed Care services into Placer County.

On January 8, 2013, your Board approved a letter supporting Medi-Cal Managed Care expansion for Kaiser Permanente. At that meeting, Anthem Blue Cross requested similar action. This action will authorize the Board to support the request from Anthem Blue Cross and potentially other health care providers.

**FISCAL**

None.

Attachment: Letter of Support - Anthem Blue Cross

# County of Placer Board of Supervisors

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January 22, 2013

Mr. Keith Parsley  
Two-Plan/BMC Model Section  
Medi-Cal Managed Care Division  
California Department of Health Care Services  
1501 Capitol Avenue, MS 4409  
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Dear Mr. Parsley:

Anthem Blue Cross Partnership Plan (Anthem Blue Cross) has indicated its intention to expand its Medi-Cal managed care participation into Placer County through a Medi-Cal regional Expansion Request for Application (RFA). Since the State is transitioning Healthy Families members to Medi-Cal managed care, the county understands that Anthem Blue Cross is applying to participate in counties where they are not currently contracting for Medi-Cal, including Placer County. If Anthem Blue Cross is awarded a contract in those counties, Healthy Families members will be able to keep their Anthem Blue Cross provider and not disrupt that existing relationship.

Since many of the impacted members from Healthy Families are already Anthem Blue Cross members, we support the ability for county residents to maintain existing relationships with their medical provider. Maintaining continuity in health care delivery is important for providers and the county residents they serve.

Placer County is supportive of Anthem Blue Cross' request to expand your services in our county.

Sincerely,

COUNTY OF PLACER

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Chair, Placer County Board of Supervisors

CC: Norma Duran  
Manager, Account Management  
Medicaid, CA State Business  
2015 J Street, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95811

