



Michael Patrick McGinn  
Mayor of Seattle

August 24, 2012

Dow Constantine  
King County Executive  
King County Chinook Building  
401 5th Ave. Suite 800  
Seattle, WA 98104

Larry Gossett, Chair  
King County Council  
516 Third Ave., Rm. 1200  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Executive Constantine and Chair Gossett:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Seattle in support of the King County Executive's negotiation of a potential agreement for participation in a demonstration project for individuals eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. The demonstration includes a financially integrated care model in which medical, mental health, substance abuse, and long term care services will be purchased through a managed care organization. The goals of the demonstration are to improve the care experience and health outcomes of the dual eligible beneficiaries and decrease overall costs.

Currently, services for individuals eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid (also known as dual eligibles or duals) are provided through different federal and state financial mechanisms with differing eligibility and regulations that result in confusion, fragmentation of care, and poor health outcomes. A financially integrated service delivery model would improve health outcomes through improved financial flexibility, a single point of accountability over all services, and financially aligned incentives that allow for the right care, at the right time. It will also help to reduce overall costs by decreasing duplication of services and reducing unnecessary emergency department and inpatient hospital use.

The City of Seattle Aging and Disability Services (ADS) is a division within the City of Seattle's Human Services Department and is the designated Area Agency on Aging (AAA). In partnership with King County Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS), ADS has been analyzing the risks and benefits of participating in two potential strategies for implementing the

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demonstration project so that the greatest possible benefit can be achieved for the dual eligible beneficiaries in the Seattle-King County community.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to improve the overall health and wellbeing of King County residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael McGinn', written in a cursive style.

Michael McGinn, Mayor  
City of Seattle