

To: TennCare Contracted Primary Care Providers
From: Stephen Smith, Director of TennCare
Date: June 9, 2020
Subject: Request to CMS for Targeted Payments to PCPs

Dear TennCare Primary Care Providers,

Thank you for your continued commitment to providing quality health care to our TennCare members during the COVID-19 pandemic. We recognize the challenges many primary care providers face due to the COVID-19 emergency, including the financial pressures for your practices because of reduced patient utilization.

Primary care providers are on the frontlines providing general and preventative health care, particularly at this time with our state's COVID response. In recognition, TennCare is seeking approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for approximately \$12.4 million in state and federal funding to be distributed to TennCare primary care providers. We are hopeful these funds will alleviate some of the financial pressures and continue to support strong primary care provider networks for our members.

TennCare submitted our formal request for this additional funding to CMS on June 9, 2020, and contracted primary care providers with our managed care organizations (MCOs) may be eligible to receive this support. Funds will be paid based on the volume of PCP payments for assigned patients during a set period of time prior to the COVID-19 emergency.

The distribution of funds will be dependent upon approval from CMS. It is our hope and expectation CMS will act quickly but we do not have a target date for the distribution of these additional funds. The leadership at Amerigroup, BlueCare, and UnitedHealthCare Community Plan are committed to partnering in this effort, and we will work as quickly as possible with our MCOs to provide these funds to eligible providers upon federal approval. We will continue to provide updates as we learn more from CMS.

Again, we are grateful for your continued partnership and thank you for the continuity of care you are offering to our members. We look forward to updating you again soon. In the meantime, you can find more information on TennCare's response during this emergency period by visiting <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/information-statistics/tenncare-information-about-coronavirus.html>.