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August 21, 2020

Mr. Robert Mendonsa

Deputy Administrator of Care Coordination and Rates
Department of HealthCare and Family Services
State of Illinois

Dear Mr Mendonsa:

CountyCare Health Plan understands the importance of and is committed to the State of Illinois Health & Family Services (HFS) Business Enterprise Program (BEP) and to working with BEP vendors. Please see below responses to the requested questions.

1. The administrative expenses paid to the Medicaid managed care health plan:
 - **CY 2018 admin expense: \$84,014,926**
 - **CY 2019 admin expense: \$81,521,269**
2. The amount of money the Medicaid managed care health plan has spent with Business Enterprise Program certified businesses.
 - **CY 2018 BEP spend: \$6,125,625**
 - **CY 2019 BEP spend: \$6,243,314**
3. The amount of money the Medicaid managed care health plan has spent with minority-owned and women-owned businesses that are certified by other agencies or private organizations.
 - **CountyCare, as part of Cook County Government, contracts with Cook County MBE/WBE certified vendors and spent approximately \$1.5 million in CY 2019. CountyCare also works with these vendors to certify under the State of Illinois BEP program.**

4. The amount of money the Medicaid managed care health plan has spent with not-for-profit community-based organizations serving predominantly minority communities, as defined by the Department. **CountyCare has included payments to Federally Qualified Health Centers per year as outlined below. In addition to this spend, CountyCare supports not-for-profit and safety net hospital providers, including through a prospective interim payment program, which provides funding in advance to providers based on prior claims history.**
 - **CY 2018 spend: \$69,516,971**
 - **CY 2019 spend: \$68,992,461**
5. The proportion of minorities, people with disabilities, and women that make up the staff of the Medicaid managed care health plan.

CY	Male	Female	Minorities	Caucasians
2018	13%	87%	76%	24%
2019	10%	90%	80%	20%

6. Recommendations for increasing expenditures with minority-owned and women-owned businesses.
 - **CountyCare is pursuing a number of ways to increase their level of MBE/WBE and BEP spend this year. This includes supporting vendors and providers through the certification process, expanding services and utilization with current BEP certified vendors, and evaluating opportunities to contract with BEP and MBE/WBE vendors through the Cook County RFP processes.**
7. A list of the types of services to which the Medicaid managed care health plan is contemplating adding new vendors.
 - **CountyCare is reviewing opportunities to contract for services in areas such as care management, transportation services, health risk screenings, contracted staffing, and pharmacy programs.**
8. The certifications the Medicaid managed care health plan accepts for minority-owned and women-owned businesses.
 - **CountyCare, as a part of Cook County Government, accepts certifications in accordance with the Cook County Ordinance and Cook County’s MBE/WBE program as well as the State of Illinois BEP certification.**

9. The point of contact for potential vendors seeking to do business with the Medicaid managed care health plan.

- **Please contact: Aaron Galeener, agaleener@cookcountyhhs.org**

CountyCare remains committed to the State of Illinois Health & Family Services (HFS) BEP and to working with BEP vendors. CountyCare will continue attending community outreach events, state sponsored vendor events and other events that pertain to increasing minority vendor opportunities. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Jim Kiamos

CEO, Health Plan Services

Cook County Health