

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-25-26
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



State Demonstrations Group

OCT 15 2019

Jami Snyder
Director
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System
801 E. Jefferson Street
Phoenix, AZ 85034

Dear Ms. Snyder:

The State of Arizona submitted to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) a report titled "AHCCCS 1115 Waiver Final Evaluation Reports", dated July 6, 2018, which represents the demonstration period of October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2016. This submission is in accordance with the state's Special Terms and Conditions (STCs) for the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) section 1115 Medicaid demonstration (Project No. 11-W-00275/9), dated October 22, 2011, which require a final evaluation report (STC #29). CMS appreciates the state's effort and continued emphasis on evaluation activities.

The submitted evaluation report addresses the AHCCCS Acute Care Program (AAP), the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTC), the Comprehensive Medical and Dental Program (CMDP), Kids Care, and highlights successes of many program components. The report, however, is not in complete alignment with the state's underlying evaluation design for the demonstration, and CMS has provided feedback to the state which notes areas in need of methodological improvement. Similar to other states with 1115 demonstration evaluations that are transitioning to a more robust approach upon renewal, CMS and the state have concluded that the state should devote its evaluation resources to the current period of performance. In so doing, CMS expects, and the state agrees, that limitations in the summative evaluation of the prior period of performance will be addressed in the current period evaluation. CMS believes that the feedback provided to the state on the evaluation report will help inform the state's next design and reports.

Therefore, CMS acknowledges the receipt of the "AHCCCS 1115 Waiver Final Evaluation Reports" and is posting it to Medicaid.gov. It is required that the state will also make the report available on its state Medicaid website.

We appreciate the state's cooperation and commitment to robust monitoring and evaluation of its current and future section 1115 demonstrations, and we look forward to continued collaboration.

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If you have any questions, please contact your project officer, Ms. Kelsey Smyth, at 410-786-7915 or by email at Kelsey.Smyth@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Danielle Daly
Acting Director
Division of Demonstration
Monitoring and Evaluation



Andrea J. Casart
Director
Division of Medicaid Expansion
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Enclosure

cc: Richard Allen, Director, Western Regional Operations Group