

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

September 11, 2020

Jaycee Cooper
Chief Deputy Director, Health Care Programs
California Department of Health Care Services
1501 Capitol Ave, 6th Floor, MS 00000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Cooper:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) acknowledges receipt of the interim evaluation of the out-of-state former foster youth (OOS FFY) component of California's section 1115 Medicaid demonstration, entitled "Medi-Cal 2020" (Project Number 11-W-00193/9, approved from December 30, 2015 through December 31, 2020). The interim evaluation report will be posted to Medicaid.gov shortly.

We find that the interim evaluation is consistent with the evaluation design, and it acknowledges the difficulty in tracking outcomes for the OOS FFY population separately from the broader FFY population enrolled in the Medi-Cal program, given the small population in the OOS FFY group. The small sample sizes precluded statistical testing; however, there are indications of improvement in outcomes over the course of the demonstration, specifically as reflected in quality measures for cancer screenings and initiation and engagement of alcohol and other drug treatment. While these outcome measures are broadly similar for the FFY population compared with the overall Medi-Cal population of similar age, other quality measures, such as follow-up after hospitalization for mental illness and asthma medication ratio for people with asthma suggest there may be scope for improvement. CMS looks forward to the data presented in the summative evaluation report, which will incorporate additional years of analysis offering a fuller depiction of the demonstration performance.

If you have any questions regarding CMS’s assessment of this interim evaluation report, or any aspects of your state’s section 1115 demonstration, please contact your CMS project officer, Ms. Lorraine Nawara, who is available via email at Lorraine.Nawara1@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Danielle Daly
Director
Division of Demonstration
Monitoring and Evaluation



Andrea J Casart
Director
Division of Eligibility and Coverage
Demonstrations

cc: Cheryl Young, State Monitoring Lead, CMS Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group