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SECRETARY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...**

### ***The Gainesville Sun: "Statewide Medicaid managed care saves lives and money"***

**["Audrey Brown: Statewide Medicaid managed care saves lives and money"](#)**

The Gainesville Sun

By Audrey Brown

October 11, 2015

\*\*For AHCA's press release click [here](#).

In 2011, the Florida Legislature enacted legislation to move away from the fragmented fee-for-service system in Medicaid to provide medical coverage to low-income individuals and families through managed care, with the understanding that people experience better health outcomes when served through a single, comprehensive, coordinated health care delivery system.

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Moreover, the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) recently released a report\*\* showing that in 2014 Florida Medicaid health plans met or exceeded national Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set averages in 65 percent of the categories.

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In fact, AHCA's secretary used the data to assert that the poor, elderly and disabled have never had access to better health care in Florida.

There is clearly a misunderstanding of what is actually occurring in Florida's Medicaid system as evidenced by recent editorials that missed the mark as a result of faulty analysis. **The simple fact is, the cost per Floridian receiving health coverage from Medicaid under managed care is lower than under the former fee-for-service program.**

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Gov. Rick Scott and the Florida Legislature deserve credit for creating a system that effectively manages health care costs to the state, while providing some of Florida's most vulnerable citizens access to high quality comprehensive health care services.



*The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida's Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 45,000 health care facilities and 34 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at [www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov](http://www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov). Additional information about Agency initiatives is available via [Facebook \(AHCAFlorida\)](#), [Twitter \(@AHCA\\_FL\)](#) and [YouTube \(/AHCAFlorida\)](#).*

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