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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Agency Approaches Second Planned Pause, Reflects on Roll-out of Long-term Care Program**

*-Welcome letters forthcoming for recipients in much of North Florida-*

**Tallahassee, Fla.**— The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) is nearing a second and final planned pause for the roll-out of the Statewide Medicaid Managed Care (SMMC) Long-term Care program. Since it first went live on August 1, the Long-term Care program has continued to expand around the State, transitioning over 50,000 recipients from fee-for-service to a managed care delivery system. Most recently, the program went live on December 1, 2013, for recipients in Medicaid Region 11, which encompasses Miami-Dade and Monroe counties.

“We have had overwhelming success with the LTC program roll-out thus far,” said Secretary Liz Dudek, “We look forward to having the last few regions go live in early 2014 with the same results.”

In January, the Agency will observe its second and final designed pause, meaning that no additional regions will roll out during this time. However, recipients in Regions 1, 3 and 4, which cover most of North Florida\*, should continue to watch their mail for welcome packets that will be sent the week of December 23 and a reminder letter that will be sent the week of January 20 from the Agency. These mailings will inform them of the plans available in their area and outline all of the features to be considered when making a plan selection. Upon receiving a welcome packet, recipients can contact the Agency’s choice counseling vendor online or over the phone to make their plan selection or to schedule a face-to-face meeting to receive assistance doing so. The choice counseling website is [www.flmedicaidmanagedcare.com](http://www.flmedicaidmanagedcare.com) and the phone numbers are (877) 711-3662 or (866) 467-4970 for TDD. Recipients can use these resources to make a plan selection or to schedule a face-to-face meeting with a choice counselor.

The roll-out of the Long-term Care program will continue on February 1, when Regions 5 and 6 (Hillsborough, Pinellas and surrounding counties) go live. For more information about the Long-term Care Program, please visit <http://ahca.myflorida.com/SMMC>.

**\* Regions 1, 3 and 4 include Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Citrus, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Escambia, Flagler, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Lafayette, Lake, Levy, Marion, Nassau, Okaloosa, Putnam, Santa Rosa, St. Johns, Sumter, Suwannee, Union, Volusia and Walton counties.**

*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 37 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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