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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Agency Completes Roll-out of Long-term Care Program in Florida**

*-Final regions, encompassing much of North and Central Florida, go live on March 1-*

**Tallahassee, Fla.**— Eight months after the first regions went live, the Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) is proud to announce that the roll-out of the final three regions of the Long-term Care (LTC) program will occur tomorrow, March 1. Medicaid regions 1, 3 and 4\*, which cover much of North and Central Florida, will begin receiving services through the LTC program tomorrow.

“Thousands of hours went into the preparation, planning and implementation of this program,” said AHCA Secretary Liz Dudek. “Thanks to the efforts of Agency staff members, our choice counseling vendor, Automated Health Systems, our partners at the Department of Elder Affairs, recipients and those who represent their interests, the contracted health plans and thousands of providers, the Long-term Care program has been a resounding success.”

The incorporation of the three remaining Medicaid regions, which are home to almost 20,000 eligible individuals, will bring the total Long-term Care enrollment to over 90,000 recipients. The roll-out process, which began on August 1, 2013, has been well received by both recipients and providers. The majority of feedback submitted through the Agency’s reporting hub and on regularly-scheduled provider calls has been positive.

“The implementation of the Long-term Care program has been a smooth transition for Florida’s elder population,” said Chuck Corley, Secretary for the Department of Elder Affairs. “Most importantly, recipients have been able to receive their care without interruption of services. Florida elders and adults with disabilities will continue to benefit as they receive care in their homes and communities through this program.”

Although these are the final regions to join the Long-term Care program, both the Agency and DOEA will continue to conduct aggressive outreach campaigns and to provide assistance to those recipients who may still need help making choices regarding their care. Recipients can call **1-877-711-3662** or visit **[www.FLMedicaidManagedCare.com](http://www.FLMedicaidManagedCare.com)** to speak with a choice counselor, who can assist them in making their decision over the phone or make an appointment for a free, in-person choice counseling session.

Moving forward, the Agency will shift its focus to the Managed Medical Assistance (MMA) program, the other part of Statewide Medicaid Managed Care, which focuses on more acute care services. Some of the individuals from Regions 3 and 4 will be the last to join the LTC program and among the first to enroll in the MMA program. To date, eligible recipients in Regions 2, 3 and 4\*\* have received an additional welcome letter and informational packet specific to the MMA program. They will have until April 17 to make their MMA selection in preparation for a May 1 roll-out.



The Agency has dedicated a section of its website to informing Floridians about Statewide Medicaid Managed Care. For more information, 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.**

**\*\* Regions 2, 3 and 4 include Alachua, Baker, Bay, Bradford, Calhoun, Citrus, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Flagler, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Hernando, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lake, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Sumter, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Volusia, Wakulla and Washington 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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