

Sept. 21, 2015

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ANNOUNCES CREATION OF CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES MANAGED CARE PLAN ADVISORY PANEL



**Contact:**

Communications Office

[NewsMedia@flhealth.gov](mailto:NewsMedia@flhealth.gov)

850-245-4111

**Tallahassee, Fla.**—The Florida Department of Health has assembled a team of experts to aid in the continued transition of the Children's Medical Services (CMS) Plan from a direct service provider network to a managed care plan.

This team will recommend best practices for administration of the plan, including long-range planning, quality improvement initiatives and health education and wellness. The panel will also work with the department to develop public, member and provider education and outreach to assist these audiences with understanding the shift from a direct service network to a high quality, patient-centered managed care plan for children with special health care needs.

The Children's Medical Services Managed Care Plan Technical Advisory Panel members are:

**Alfreda Blackshear, M.D.**, general pediatrician

**Mobeen Rathore, M.D.**, pediatric specialist

**Barbara Meeks, R.N.**, Nemours Children's Health System

**Carmen Anchorena**, parent of child enrolled in CMS Plan

**Karen Zeiler**, Molina Healthcare

**Pat Ryder, M.D.**, chief medical officer of CMS plan

**Patricia Emmanuel, M.D.**, University of South Florida College of Medicine, chair of pediatrics

Members will serve an initial term of one year. Upon completion of year one, members may be reappointed for additional, subsequent one-year terms.

The appointments take effect immediately.

The first meeting of the panel is anticipated to take place in October. All meetings of the panel will be noticed in accordance with Florida law and open to the public.

To see a copy of the creation document establishing this panel please visit

<http://www.flhealth.gov/documents/cms-plan-tap.pdf>.

## **About the Florida Department of Health**

The department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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