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December 14, 2009

Tracy Plouck  
State Medicaid Director  
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services  
Office of Ohio Health Plans (Medicaid)  
50 W. Town Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Tracy,

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Wayne County Children Services

As Director of the Public Children Services Association of Ohio, representing the 88 child protection agencies in our state, I am pleased to lend our association's support for the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services' proposal in response to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services request for applications for the CHIPRA Quality Demonstration Grants. Since the majority of the children that we serve in the public child protection system are covered by Medicaid we certainly are supportive of building on our present Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and Medicaid program to establish and evaluate a national quality health system for our children and families.

We are particularly interested in the focus in the proposal on the integration of the behavioral health components across the pediatric lifespan of children we serve. Recognizing this as a health care need and addressing the areas of improving care and measuring outcomes is essential for the children we serve in the child protection system. This proposal also focuses on developing screening, referrals and training for children experiencing or witnessing trauma as part of the behavioral health and will be of great assistance for our children and families.

PCSAO will be a part of the statewide planning efforts as well as local county efforts to implement the work and goals in this proposal. We are impressed with the other partners in the group you have assembled to do this work and look forward to working with you to achieve these quality outcomes for all children covered by Medicaid or CHIP in Ohio.

#### STAFF

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Analyst  
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Foster Youth Advisor

Sincerely,

Crystal Ward Allen  
Executive Director  
Public Children Services Association of Ohio