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## MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** February 24, 2017

**TO:** California Children's Services Stakeholders, and Members of CalOptima's Provider Advisory Committee and Member Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Michael Schrader, CEO

**SUBJECT:** California Children's Services/Whole-Child Model Implementation Delay

**COPY:** Candice Gomez, Executive Director, Program Implementation; Cheryl Simmons, staff to PAC; and Becki Melli, staff to MAC

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Thank you for your partnership with CalOptima. As a key community stakeholder, you are essential in our planning for the smooth integration of California Children's Services (CCS) into Medi-Cal managed care. This initiative is known as the Whole-Child Model (WCM).

I'm writing to share an important update related to the timing of WCM implementation in Orange County. At a recent meeting of the CCS Advisory Group, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) announced a delay in the start date until no sooner than January 2019.

DHCS leaders stated that the additional time will be used to enhance communications with stakeholders and affected families, and to conduct thorough plan readiness reviews. For more information from the recent meeting, see the CCS Advisory Group page [here](#). The next quarterly advisory group stakeholder meeting is Wednesday, April 12, 2017, in Sacramento.

In addition, CalOptima plans to have local stakeholder meetings during the year leading up to the implementation of WCM. We will keep in touch when a schedule for these 2018 meetings is established. In the meantime, CalOptima and the Orange County Health Care Agency will continue meeting regularly to plan for a successful transition.

Further, to enhance CalOptima's engagement with member advocates, our Board of Directors approved participation in the Family Voices of California (FVCA) 2017 Annual Health Summit, February 27–28 in Sacramento. FVCA is a statewide collaborative focused on quality health care for children with special needs. FVCA has worked closely with the state on the upcoming transition, and CalOptima's support for the FVCA's summit will help to ensure that Orange County CCS member advocates are aware of the changes coming to the program.

To sign up to receive email updates regarding the Orange County implementation, visit CalOptima's WCM webpage [here](#).

Thank you for your interest in CalOptima and your continued support. Together, we make a difference in the health of our community.