



AZHAC Public Comment

1 message

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To: "Centene-WellCareMerger@azahcccs.gov" <Centene-WellCareMerger@azahcccs.gov>

The Arizona Healthcare Accountability Committee appreciates the efforts of Care1st to build a provider network in the Northern region. In taking on a new contract in the region, Care1st has devoted substantial time and resources to reaching out to providers and facilities to onboard a strong provider network for members. They have worked with providers to address concerns about credentialing, contracting and reimbursement. CEO Scott Cummings has personally attended and participated in AZHAC meetings and followed up on concerns voiced by the committee.

It is hoped AHCCCS will approve the proposed transition plan and consider the cost to physicians, hospitals, facilities and ultimately members should a new plan be required. Credentialing, contracting, and developing a relationship with a plan is costly to providers and can often be too much of a burden to undertake, especially when the reimbursement is significantly lower than commercial plans. AHCCCS members are perhaps the population most in need of a robust provider network and Care1st has worked diligently to contract with providers to create such a network.

Thus, AZHAC supports the transition plan and respectfully requests Care1st/Centene be permitted to fulfill the current contract in the North region through 2025, even if this requires AHCCCS to amend the current prohibition on one plan / entity having contracts in more than two GSA's.

Respectfully submitted,

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