



## Department of Medical Assistance Services

– September 9, 2019 –



Dear DMAS Partners,

I want to thank each of you for your contribution to the important work entrusted to our agency. As you know, we have had an eventful year, including the recent announcement of the leadership change here at the Virginia Medicaid agency.

Dr. Jennifer Lee led DMAS through an extraordinary period in our history, and I commend her for the energy and passion she invested in the expansion of our Medicaid program. She kept our agency on course as we enrolled more than 300,000 men and women in health coverage, and

her advocacy for our new and existing members has left a lasting and positive impact on our agency.

Dr. Lee continues to work for DMAS in an advisory capacity, and we will benefit from her knowledge and guidance as she transitions into her next work.

I was appointed the Director of the agency effective this week, and I am handling all operational decisions for the agency.

I am committed to a seamless transition for our staff, state agency partners, health plans, contractors, vendors, advocates and others who work side-by-side with us every day. I have been a member of the DMAS team for nearly 25 years. I do not face a steep learning curve, but I will need time to make key decisions and set priorities that keep us focused on our mission.

Chief of Staff Ivory Banks and the members of our Executive Management Team have been invaluable to me during this transition. They are an amazing group of people, and I am grateful to have such a fantastic executive team.

We have been racing forward at a full sprint for more than a year, with many momentous changes behind us and others ahead of us in the coming months.

I know you will have questions about ongoing projects and other initiatives, and I promise to be responsive. Thanks for your support. I look forward to our continued partnership.

*-Karen Kimsey, DMAS Director*