

Department of Health & Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Clinical Standards & Quality
61 Forsyth Street, SW, Suite 4T20
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8909



IMPORTANT NOTICE – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY
(Receipt of this Notice is Presumed to be July 13, 2020 -Date Notice E-mailed)

July 13, 2020

Tennessee Health Management, Inc. d.b.a.
American Health Communities, Inc. (AHC)
1971 Tennessee Avenue North
Post Office Box 10
Parson, Tennessee 38363

Ms. Heather Lansaw
Regional Director of Operations
American Health Communities, Inc.
2675 Bradford Pear Lane
Union City, Tennessee 38261
hlansaw@ahcseiorcare.com

Re: Request for State Use of CMP Funds
CMP Request No. 2020-04-TN-0429
CMP Fund Request Approved- \$792,053.34

Dear Ms. Heather Lansaw:

Sections 1819(h)(2)(B)(ii)(IV)(ff) and 1919(h)(3)(C)(ii)(IV)(ff) of the Social Security Act incorporate specific provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act pertaining to the collection and uses of civil money penalties (CMPs) imposed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) when nursing homes do not meet requirements for long term care facilities. In accordance with 42 CFR § 488.433 and CMS Survey & Certification Memo 12-13-NH (effective January 1, 2012) States must obtain approval from CMS for the use of federally imposed CMP funds.

Our office has reviewed the proposal submitted by Tennessee Health Management Inc. dba American Health Communities, Inc. (AHC) for \$792,053.34 to implement a program titled, *24/7 Telemedicine*. The requested equipment and software will enable the applicant's facilities to launch a telemedicine program. Residents stand to directly benefit from the increased access to physician services. Additionally, the applicant's plan for sustaining the program ensure residents will continue to receive improved care well after the end of the funding period. This is a two-year project involving approximately 2,238 residents living in 28 nursing homes located throughout Middle and West Tennessee, including 23 Tennessee counties.

Based on the CMP application request and additional information provided for review, the CMP request has been approved. Acceptance of CMP funds by Tennessee Health Management, Inc. d/b/a American Health Communities, Inc. requires the applicant to:

- Review the CMP project and deliverables with Alliant Quality, the Tennessee Quality Improvement Organization (QIO);
- Ensure that all participating nursing homes are registered with Alliant Quality;
- Provide a list of participating nursing homes to CMS, Alliant Quality and the State Survey Agency;
- Review the CMP project and deliverables with the Medical Director of each nursing home, as well as, Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners providing services in all 28 facilities;
- At a minimum, quarterly reports shall address the effectiveness of the 24/7 Telemedicine program;
- Quarterly reports shall disclose whether the 24/7 Telemedicine program resulted in reducing avoidable hospitalizations and if the program had an impact on hospital admission /readmission rates;
- Quarterly reports shall disclose the impact of the 24/7 Telemedicine program on clinical outcomes;
- Provide feedback on residents' satisfaction with the 24/7 Telemedicine program; and
- At least annually, Tennessee Health Management, Inc. d/b/a American Health Communities, Inc. shall schedule a conference call with CMS and the State Survey Agency to share information on lessons learned and best practices identified from the 24/7 Telemedicine program. The QIO and LTCO shall be invited to voluntarily participate in the annual project update.

Quarterly reports on this project and a final report summarizing lessons learned will be sent to CMS, with CMP request number 2020-04-TN-0429 included on all pages of the report. Please address correspondence for CMS to:

Stephanie M. Davis, MS., RD
Survey & Enforcement Division
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Clinical Standards & Quality
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth St., Suite 4T20
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8909
Electronically to: Stephanie.Davis@cms.hhs.gov

This CMP request was made possible by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in partnership with the Tennessee Department of Health and the Tennessee State Agency.

In accordance with 42 CFR 488.433, states must make information about the results of projects funded by CMS available to the public. States must submit results of projects using the CMP Reinvestment Plan Project Tracker, due annually in February and posted on the CMS CMPRP website.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Stephanie Davis, Chief, LTC Enforcement Branch at (404) 562-7471.

Sincerely,

Stephanie M. Davis for

Linda D. Smith, Director
Atlanta Division of Survey & Enforcement
Center for Clinical Standards & Quality

cc: Stephanie M. Davis
Louise Ryan
Vincent Davis
Sally Pitt
Shaquallah Shanks
Kristyn Long
Alliant Quality
CMPRP Team