



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
ANDREW JOHNSON TOWER, 5TH FLOOR
710 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243

BILL LEE
GOVERNOR

LISA PIERCEY, MD, MBA, FAAP
COMMISSIONER

February 8, 2021

Karen Guske
SVP, COPA Compliance Officer
Ballad Health
400 N. State of Franklin Road
Johnson City, TN 37604

Subject: Ballad's Plan Extension Request

Ms. Guske:

In response to your letter, dated January 11, 2021, requesting a one-year extension of the current three-year plans which otherwise would expire June 30, 2021, the Tennessee Department of Health agrees that Ballad could not likely draft thoughtful and informed three-year strategic plans while it contends with the urgent clinical, financial, and logistical demands of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. Accordingly, I am granting your request for a one-year extension to each of the Behavioral Health, Children's Health, Rural Health, Population Health, HIE, and HR/GME plans, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Ballad shall update the Department on the status of each strategy listed in the existing three-year plans (identifying which strategies are still being pursued and which are no longer being pursued) by April 30, 2021.
- 2) No later than April 1, 2022, Ballad shall develop and submit to the Department for its approval a new plan for the next three full fiscal years to replace each existing plan.

Thank you for seeking formal approval for these plan extensions. We appreciate Ballad's ability to adapt and seek workable solutions during this extended period of crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lisa M. Piercey".

Lisa M. Piercey, MD, MBA, FAAP

Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Health

Tim Belisle, General Counsel
Ballad Health

Claire C. Haltom, Shareholder
Baker Donelson PC

Larry Fitzgerald
COPA Monitor

Janet M. Kleinfelter, Deputy Attorney General
State of Tennessee

Judi Knecht, Interim COPA Director
Tennessee Department of Health

Jeff Ockerman
Tennessee Department of Health

Erik Bodin, Office of Licensure and Certification
Commonwealth of Virginia