



**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

June 7, 2021

Mr. Alan Levine
Executive Chairman, President, and CEO
Ballad Health
303 Med Tech Parkway, Suite 300
Johnson City, TN 37604

RE: Proposal to Modify the Children's Health Plan (to include Miracle Field)

Mr. Levine:

I have received a recommendation from Larry Fitzgerald, the COPA Monitor, regarding your proposal to modify Ballad Health's 2018 Children's Health Plan to include activities and spending related to the construction of Miracle Field in Kingsport.

I am familiar with the Miracle Field project and have read the details of the request. I am supportive of this great project, which promotes health and inclusion for children with special needs and believe it does indeed align with the objectives for investment in children's services as set forth in the Terms of Certification (TOC). However, the TOC states that plan modifications are to be effective on a prospective basis, and because \$150,000 was spent on the project before the request was submitted, that portion of Ballad's spend, unfortunately, will not be able to be counted toward Ballad's children's health spending commitment.

I am sorry to deliver this news because I understand it is disappointing and agree that this is a very worthwhile investment. However, there are established rules under the TOC about the approval process and flow of funds, and it is our job to enforce them.

Therefore, I approve Ballad's proposal to modify the Children's Health Plan to include Ballad's spending and activities related to the construction of Miracle Field in Kingsport subject to the following conditions:

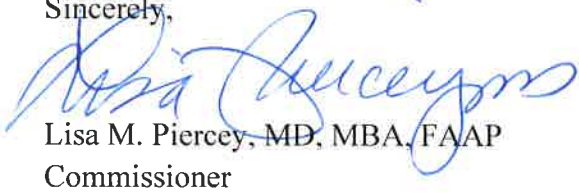
- Only money spent after the date the proposed plan amendment was submitted will be counted toward the satisfaction of Ballad's children's health spending commitment (projected budget of \$100,000).

- Ballard Health shall provide to the Department a schedule of milestones and metrics for the planned activities associated with the Miracle Field project investment (such as “addition of (types of sports) and (types of activities) provided as a result of Ballard’s approved investment,” and “(a target) number of children that are expected to utilize the field (per quarter)”) within 30 (thirty) days of the date of this letter; and
- Ballard Health shall provide updates to the Department on the achievement of the Miracle Field in Kingsport project milestones and metrics on the same timeline as all other Children’s Health Plan updates.

This decision is in agreement with the COPA Monitor’s recommendation.

Thank you for identifying this worthy opportunity and seeking approval for a plan modification. I believe Ballard’s support of Miracle Field in Kingsport will provide an important benefit to children with special needs and their families, and I am pleased that Ballard wishes to support it.

Sincerely,



Lisa M. Piercey, MD, MBA, FAAP
Commissioner

Cc: The Honorable Norman Oliver, State Health Commissioner
Virginia 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

Karen Guske, SVP Ballad Health
COPA Compliance Officer