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Via Email and USPS Mail

November 16, 2020

Dr. Mandy Cohen, MD, MPH Secretary, NC Department of Health and Human Services 2001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-2001

Dear Secretary Cohen:

On November 5, 2020, the Board of Orange County Commissioners authorized the County Manager to initiate the process of requesting formal disengagement from Cardinal Innovations Healthcare and seeking realignment with Alliance Health. Please accept this letter as Orange County's Intent to Disengage as described in 10A NCAC 26C .0702.

Orange County is creating its disengagement plan for approval by the Board of County Commissioners and will post the adopted plan on the appropriate websites. The County also looks forward to receiving public comment on the plan and making those comments available on the County's website. We will also be asking the Board of Commissioners to approve a continuity of services plan for the transition.

Orange County is committed to offering the highest quality services to its residents and has made significant efforts to improve behavioral health services through local investments. Although the timing of this request is likely not ideal given the State and County responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board expressed urgency in finalizing the disengagement process well before the implementation of Tailored Plans in July of 2022.

Thank you for your leadership in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and for your ultimate thoughtful consideration of Orange County's complete disengagement and realignment request in the near future.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Hammersley Orange County Manager

Enclosure: Authorization by the Board of Commissioners to initiate disengagement from Cardinal Innovations Healthcare and to seek realignment with Alliance Health