

My name is Rebecca Spence. I am the parent of a 42 year old daughter with mental disabilities.

I urge you to slow down Governor Brandstad's move to privatize Medicaid. He continues to insist there is no need to delay this transition, however our experience tells a different story.

My daughter has been assigned to Wellcare as her MCO. We received her enrollment packet on Saturday, November 28. On Monday I called Wellcare to see if her providers were signed on with the company. The answer was no to all of them. However, I should continue to check back because they are reaching out to providers and will be signing on new ones in the next few weeks.

I then called the other three MCO's to see if providers were signed on with their companies. I was told by two companies that one of her providers was signed with them. I was again told to keep checking with them as they were hoping to sign on new providers in the coming weeks. The third company told me to call the providers myself for the information.

In the Telegraph Herald this morning an article states that an Administrative Law Judge is recommending Iowa reverse its contract with Wellcare for failing to provide information about fraud and mismanagement of funds involving former executives. The company states it will challenge the ruling. In that same article Governor Brandstad states there is no reason for concern, we can move forward with the three remaining companies if needed.

So, we are not sure how many MCO's we really have to choose from, providers are not signing on with MCO's for numerous reasons, we as stakeholders are unable to obtain necessary information to choose an MCO and the deadline is now 17 days away.

Are we really going to dismantle the way we currently manage Medicaid funds for this chaos and confusion?

There are too many questions and too few answers for all those involved for the state to move forward at this time.

PLEASE PUT A STOP TO THIS TRANSITION.