



## DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

*Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona*

### DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

*From the Office of the Assistant Director  
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**TRANSMITTAL DATE: November 19, 2015**

**TOPIC: AHCCCS and DES Joint Statement**

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Hello Qualified Vendors and Stakeholders,

On Thursday, October 29, 2015, DES Director Timothy Jeffries and AHCCCS Director Thomas Betlach issued a joint statement to address concerns regarding the possibility of DDD merging into the AHCCCS Administration. The joint statement from the Directors is attached for you. Here are some highlights from the statement:

- The Directors guarantee that there is no proposal to merge DDD within the AHCCCS Administration that has been discussed by either agency or the Governor's office.
- AHCCCS and DDD are having preliminary discussions around ways to improve access to care for DDD members.
- We have a responsibility to reduce the hassle factor for families who are engaging in different systems of care (such as physical health, behavioral health, long term services and supports, Medicare, and Children's Rehabilitative Services).
- There are no decisions or changes being proposed at this time.
- Both agencies are committed to engaging stakeholders around thoughts and ideas to help ensure that we are making access to care as easy as possible for our members.

The joint statement will be posted on DDD's website. It is already posted on AHCCCS' website: <http://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/downloads/AHCCCSDESJointCommunication.pdf>.

I will be in touch with you regarding any developments in this area.

Best Regards,

*Laura*

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