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# **Integration of MinnesotaCare with County-Based Purchasing**

Report to the Minnesota State Legislature  
As required by Laws of Minnesota 1997  
Chapter 203, article 4, section 67

Minnesota Department of Human Services  
**February 1998**



Minnesota Department of **Human Services**

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## INTEGRATION OF MINNESOTACARE WITH COUNTY BASED PURCHASING

Pursuant to 1997 Omnibus Health and Human Services Bill Article 4, Section 67.

“the commissioner of human services shall develop a plan to integrate the MinnesotaCare program with county-based purchasing. The plan must be designed to provide more choice to MinnesotaCare enrollees and to ensure that they have health care options in addition to county-based purchasing. The plan must permit a county that elects to implement county-based purchasing to elect to purchase or provide health services on behalf of persons eligible for the MinnesotaCare program. The commissioner shall submit the plan to the Legislature by February 1, 1998.”

DHS intends to implement this requirement as follows:

- Counties or groups of counties which implement an approved County-Based Purchasing (CBP) proposal will also be allowed to include MinnesotaCare recipients.
- Department of Human Services (DHS) will develop an agreement with the CBP to provide services to MinnesotaCare recipients at the same rates which are available to other MinnesotaCare contractors.
- The CBP must meet the same standards as other MinnesotaCare contractors in the areas of services provided, consumer protection, and data collection. The CBP must also meet any future requirements which are adopted concerning the availability of transitional coverage for recipients leaving MinnesotaCare.
- DHS may offer MinnesotaCare recipients other health plan choices, if available, in a CBP region if that plan provides additional providers, organizational or care management choices.
- Once the MinnesotaCare agreement is completed, the CBP will be made available to new MinnesotaCare recipients for the next month after the CBP has approved provider agreements in place and has delivered the appropriate enrollment materials to DHS. The CBP will also be made available in the next open enrollment period after the provider agreements and enrollment materials have been completed.

If you have questions regarding this report, please contact Jim Chase at Department of Human Services (612) 215-0125.