September 4, 2025

Caprice Knapp, Acting Director
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS)
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244

Re: CMS School-Based Services Technical Assistance Center

Dear Director Knapp,

As the chairs of the national Medicaid in Schools Coalition, we are writing to express our strong support and appreciation for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicaid School-Based Services Technical Assistance Center (TAC). The Medicaid in Schools Coalition represents over 65 organizations dedicated to protecting and advancing Medicaid-funded services in schools. As schools welcome students back, help them enroll in the Medicaid program, and access Medicaid reimbursable school services that maximize their academic potential, the need for the TAC's expertise and assistance is even more critical. The TAC must complete its mission and carry out its work to the fullest extent to support State Medicaid Agencies, State Education Agencies and Local Education Agencies (LEA).

The Medicaid school-based program has strong bipartisan Congressional support. In 2022, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) called for significant investments in updating school Medicaid policy and developing additional resources for states and schools. Members on both sides of the aisle strongly supported these investments, including the establishment and funding of a School-Based Services Technical Assistance Center (TAC), as they recognized the importance of reducing technical and administrative barriers for districts that bill or want to bill for school-based Medicaid services.

Both red and blue states alike have made strong investments in the Medicaid school-based program. President Trump approved several of the strongest state programs, including Michigan's and California's, during his first administration, and recently approved additional state programs in Maryland, Utah, and Wisconsin. Today, the TAC plays an even more essential role in ensuring states and school districts can access the support necessary to implement and strengthen their school Medicaid programs to meet the needs of children and youth, while ensuring effective management of the program.

Prior to the TAC, federal technical assistance resources did not exist to support school Medicaid programs. While the TAC has developed many important resources to advance state and school district efficiency, more support for states and districts is

critical. The TAC must continue to develop resources and retain its key functions to support the needs of states and school districts to implement robust and compliant school Medicaid programs.

The TAC has proactively shared best practices and information with the field, including hosting regular webinars and training on school Medicaid, publishing tools on key school Medicaid issues and maintaining a website to facilitate information sharing. The TAC has collected data from states and school districts about their school Medicaid programs to inform the field and federal agencies.

The resources created and distributed by the TAC have resulted in more school districts accessing Medicaid funding and meeting the healthcare needs of children. The TAC provides a singular opportunity to advance and support state and school district innovation. As bipartisan momentum around school Medicaid continues to grow, the TAC is integral to ensuring states and school districts can address student needs.

We urge you to continue robust support for the TAC, and ensure that the TAC can carry out its mission for our nation's states, school districts and students.

If you have questions about the letter or wish to meet to discuss this issue further, please feel free to contact the Medicaid in Schools Coalition co-chairs: Jessie Mandle (Jessie@healthyschoolscampaign.org), Sasha Pudelski (spudelski@aasa.org), and Kelly Vaillancourt Strobach (kvaillancourt@naspweb.org).

Sincerely,

Sasha Pudelski
The School Superintendents Association (AASA)

Kelly Vaillancourt Strobach
National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)

Jessie Mandle
Healthy Schools Campaign (HSC)