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CMS Accepts GMH's Amended Plan of Correction

Hagåtña, Guam – The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has accepted the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority's (GMHA) submission detailing its amended Plan of Correction (PoC) in response to the deficiencies cited by CMS during a February survey.

GMHA received the notification from CMS this week after it submitted its amended PoC to CMS on April 12.

“Although we are optimistic and pleased with CMS’ decision, this does not mean we are in the clear,” said Governor Lou Leon Guerrero. **“What it does show is that our team is making progress, and it also shows a willingness by our Federal partners to work with us. We must not lose sight of our overarching goal—to provide quality healthcare to our people by ensuring compliance with our partners.”**

The March 19 letter from CMS still stands, according to CMS officials. CMS is expected to authorize a revisit survey of GMHA at which time CMS will validate whether GMHA's PoC was met and any previous or outstanding citations, or any new complaints have been corrected.

“I have always been confident in the abilities of our management team and staff regarding this issue. We will continue to work unceasingly to make sure that when CMS returns for another survey, they will find that we have maintained compliance with CMS standards,” said GMHA Administrator Lillian Perez-Posadas.

Last Friday, GMHA also received notice from CMS that its Medicare per diem rate was increased by 26 percent, to \$1,646, effective April 17; and, that another \$2.4 million in funding was transmitted to GMHA for its 2018 Medicare Cost Report.

GMHA anticipates another adjustment Tentative Settlement (TS) payment for its FY 2017 Medicare cost report. With the new per diem rate of \$1,646, the hospital expects upwards of \$6 million each year thereafter for payments on Medicare, Medicaid and MIP accounts.

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