

STATE OF WASHINGTON HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

626 8th Avenue, SE • P.O. Box 45502 • Olympia, Washington 98504-5502

August 19, 2014

Steve Hill, Chair Bree Collaborative 705 Second Avenue, Suite 410 Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Mr. Hill: Steve

Thank you and the Bree Collaborative for the *Potentially Avoidable Hospital Readmissions Report and Recommendations*. Per Bree legislation I directed my staff to conduct an interagency review of the readmissions work recommendations. The medical directors of the Department of Labor and Industries and the Health Care Authority (HCA) reviewed the report and endorse this work and these recommendations from the Bree Collaborative.

HCA will work to adopt the recommended hospital-specific in state programs beyond Medicaid, where it is currently a requirement per the Medicaid Quality Incentive to track specific actions following hospital discharges for patients with certain conditions. There may be opportunities to implement similar requirements in the Public Employees Benefits programs. Internally and through the Bree Implementation Team we hope to identify strategies to encourage broader use of the Washington Hospital Association *Care Transitions Toolkit*.

I continue to be inspired by the work of the Bree Collaborative and the efforts of staff from the Foundation for Healthcare Quality and the state agencies. HCA will continue to work closely with the Bree Implementation Team to enhance implementation and dissemination opportunities for these recommendations.

Should you have any questions for concerns, please contact me by telephone at 360-725-1523 or via email at dorothy.teeter@hca.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Dorothy F. Teeter, MHA

Director