



**Nevada Occupational Therapy Association**

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May 23, 2022

Dear State of Nevada, Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing & Policy:

NOTA represents the interests of over 1600 licensed occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants in Nevada. I am writing today to express serious concern regarding Silver Summit's capitation relationship with Smith Therapy Partners.

We have several issues with this decision:

Families were not notified of this change. Medicaid did not notify them. They learned from their current pediatric providers that they would have to change clinics.

When pediatric clinics notified families of this change, current pediatric clinics directed families to the providers that were carved out (Speak Easy, My Left Foot, Let's Talk, and Affiliated). Several families attempted to get established at these providers and were told they'd be on a wait list.

How were these pediatric carve-out clinics chosen? There are many options of pediatric clinics in the greater Las Vegas area. We wonder how Let's Talk with one location was chosen. What is the relationship between these clinics and Smith Therapy Partners and why were other clinics with comparable number of practitioners not selected?

We request that Medicaid be more forthcoming in their communication with providers, with beneficiaries, and be transparent about these arrangements and how these decisions are made.

We also request that pediatric patients be allowed to continue seeing their therapy provider of choice, including all pediatric therapy providers currently enrolled in Silver Summit into the carve out.

As occupational therapy practitioners, we provide therapeutic evaluation and intervention for children and adults with self-care, motor, cognitive, social emotional skills so they can be as independent as possible in their daily activities. Forcing families to change therapy providers interrupts their routines and relationships which are essential for progress in functional outcomes. Please consider allowing families to maintain their current pediatric providers and not only those on the carve out list. Please reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Paula Cook, OTD, OTR/L

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President

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