

Understanding the change

While the *Health Care Financing Review* has served its readership and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) well for a number of years, recent changes in CMS programs, along with the current range of publication technology options, had convinced us to redirect both our editorial focus and dissemination medium.

Over the past several months, members of the Office of Research, Development, and Information (ORDI) have consulted with a number of individuals and small groups to solicit input on the best way forward for our journal. The people we met with had two things in common. First, they are highly regarded as researchers, editors, publishers, and health policy experts; second, they have a genuine interest in CMS programs and believe, as we do, that it is essential for the agency to have a peer-reviewed publication to serve as an authoritative medium for disseminating high-quality and relevant research to a wide audience of Medicare, Medicaid, and Children's Health Insurance stakeholders.

We are pleased to inform you that the outcome of these external consultations, combined with many hours of internal planning and deliberations among CMS staff, have brought us to the next step in our endeavor—announcing our plans for rolling out our inaugural issue. After considering a number of options, we have decided to call our new journal the *Medicare & Medicaid Research Review* (MMRR). David Bott, Ph.D. was selected as Editor-in-Chief. The goal of this new, digital publication will be to serve as the definitive source for reports of well designed, methodologically rigorous, and policy relevant research on the Medicare, Medicaid, and Children's Health Insurance programs.

The launch and development of MMRR is a priority initiative for ORDI. Therefore, David will report directly to the ORDI front office and will work closely with Tom Reilly, Acting ORDI Director, to ensure not only that our new journal is a worthy successor to the *Health Care Financing Review*, but that the publication is commensurate to the CMS mission in an era of major health care reform.