



**Center for Medicaid, CHIP and Survey & Certification**

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October 21, 2010

Mary Dalton  
State Medicaid and CHIP Director  
Department of Public Health and Human Services  
P.O. Box 4210  
Helena, MT 59604-4210

Dear Ms. Dalton:

Your seventh title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State plan amendment (SPA) submitted on August 18, 2010, with revised State plan pages and additional information submitted on October 13, 2010, has been approved. This amendment has a retroactive effective date of October 1, 2010.

Section 10203 of the Affordable Care Act amends the definition of a targeted low-income child in section 2110(b)(2)(B) of the Social Security Act (the Act) by permitting States to cover children of State employees under CHIP if the State has maintained its contribution levels for employees with dependent coverage since 1997, or can demonstrate that the State employees' health benefits plan's out-of-pocket costs pose a financial hardship for the family. This new coverage option was effective upon enactment of the Affordable Care Act on March 23, 2010.

This SPA permits Montana to provide CHIP coverage under Healthy Montana Kids (HMK) to children of State employees and Montana University System employees with an income level at or below 250 percent of the Federal poverty level (FPL) through the financial hardship exception under the Affordable Care Act.

Your title XXI Technical Director is Ms. Stacey Green. She is available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other CHIP-related issues. Ms. Green's contact information is as follows:

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Official communications regarding program matters should be submitted simultaneously to Ms. Stacey Green and Mr. Richard Allen, Associate Regional Administrator in the Denver Regional Office. Mr. Allen's address is:

Denver Regional Office  
1600 Broadway, Suite# 700  
Denver, CO 80202-4967

If you have additional questions, please contact Ms. Victoria Wachino, Director, Family and Children's Health Programs Group at (410) 786-5647.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

/s/

Cindy Mann  
Director

Enclosure

cc: Richard Allen, Associate Regional Administrator, Denver Regional Office