

December 17, 2008

Ms. Robin Arnold-Williams
Secretary
Department of Social and Health Services
P.O. Box 45010
Olympia, WA 98504-5010

Dear Ms. Arnold-Williams:

We are pleased to inform you that Washington's 10th State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) State plan amendment (SPA) submitted April 3, 2008, with additional information submitted on August 26, 2008, October 14, 2008, and October 28, 2008, has been approved.

This SPA permits Washington to institute a pilot Application Agent program to assist families applying for SCHIP and other child health programs in the State. Washington will receive enhanced Federal match on a \$75 fee paid to the application agent in 32 Local Health Jurisdictions and 6 Community-Based Organizations for each application that results in new coverage. Washington will also receive an enhanced Federal match to finance a media campaign for its *Apple Health for Kids* program. The State will claim these expenditures under its 10 percent administrative cap.

The State will be required to track and report the number of successful Medicaid and SCHIP enrollments as a result of this initiative in the Medicaid and SCHIP Budget and Expenditure System. The State will also be required to report on these efforts in their State Annual Reports.

This amendment has retroactive effective dates of July 1, 2007, for the media campaign and October 1, 2008, for the Application Agent program.

Your title XXI project officer is Mr. Jeffrey Silverman. He is available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other SCHIP-related issues. Mr. Silverman's contact information is as follows:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid and State Operations
Mail Stop S2-01-16
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850
Telephone: (410) 786-8679
Facsimile: (410) 786-5882
E-mail: jeffrey.silverman@cms.hhs.gov

Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Mr. Silverman and to Ms. Barbara Richards, Acting Associate Regional Administrator in our Seattle Regional Office. Ms. Richards' address is:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health
Mail Stop RX-43
2201 6th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121

If you have additional questions, please contact Ms. Dianne Heffron, Acting Director, Family and Children's Health Programs Group, Center for Medicaid and State Operations, at (410) 786-5647.

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

Sincerely,

/s/

Kerry Weems
Acting Administrator

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cc:

Barbara Richards, Acting ARA, Region X