

September 8, 2009

Mrs. Patricia Guzman
Kid Care CHIP Manager & CHIP Director
Wyoming Department of Health
6101 Yellowstone Rd, Suite 210
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Mrs. Guzman:

We are pleased to inform you that your Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State plan amendment (SPA), submitted on May 18, 2009, has been approved. The effective date of this amendment is October 1, 2009. This amendment allows Wyoming to make changes to its cost sharing and enrollment procedures, including providing applicants with access to an online application and changing its process for implementing an enrollment cap under its existing State plan authority.

As you are aware, §42 CFR 457.720 of CHIP regulations require that State's provide an assurance that "the State collects data, maintains records, and furnishes reports to the Secretary, at the times and in the standardized format, the Secretary may require to enable the Secretary to monitor State program administration and compliance and to evaluate and compare the effectiveness of State plans under title XXI." Given the potential impact of Wyoming's cost sharing increases on enrollees access to care, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requests that the State regularly monitor the effect of these approved changes in cost sharing, collect and track the following data, and provide analysis of this data to CMS on a quarterly basis: 1) the number of children by Federal poverty level (FPL) that exceed the 5 percent maximum, 2) the number of families by FPL that exceed the 5 percent maximum, 3) the number of families by FPL that send in receipts when they do exceed the 5 percent cap, 4) impact on utilization of services, specifically services (e.g., dental, inpatient hospital, emergency room visits) with copayments that have significantly increased under this SPA, and 5) the percentage of children and families that reach the 5 percent maximum in a month, quarter, or year. We also request that the State survey enrollees on their experiences subsequent to the implementation of the cost sharing changes.

In addition, we want to ensure that Wyoming is aware of section 504 of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA), which provides enrollees with a minimum

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premium grace period before termination of coverage and became effective for coverage periods beginning on or after the February 4, 2009, date of enactment.

Your title XXI Project Officer is Ms. June Milby. She is available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other State CHIP related issues. Ms. Milby'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) 786-8686
Facsimile: (410) 786-5882
E-mail: June.Milby@cms.hhs.gov

Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Ms. Milby and to Mr. Richard Allen, Associate Regional Administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Region VIII, Division of Medicaid and State Operations. Mr. Allen's address is:

Mr. Richard Allen, ARA
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services-Region VIII
Colorado State Bank Building
1600 Broadway, Suite 700
Denver, Colorado 80202-4367

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/

Charlene Frizzera
Acting Administrator

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cc: Mr. Richard Allen, Associate Regional Administrator, CMS Region VIII Office