



Region 10
2201 Sixth Avenue, MS/RX 43
Seattle, Washington 98121

William Hogan, Commissioner
Department of Health and Social Services
Post Office Box 110601
Juneau Alaska 99811-0601

RE: Alaska State Plan Amendment (SPA) Transmittal Number 10-001

Dear Mr. Hogan:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has completed its review of State Plan Amendment (SPA) Transmittal Number 10-001.

This amendment provides for Behavioral Health service descriptions and reimbursement methodology updates.

This SPA is approved effective April 1, 2010, as requested by the State. This approval is contingent upon Alaska's successful correction of Attachment 4.19 B, pages 4 and 11. During the review of SPA 10-001, CMS performed an analysis of the reimbursement for Mental-Health Clinic Services, Mental-Health Rehabilitation Services, Nurse Midwife Services, Speech, Hearing and Language Services, and Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Services. These provisions were initially submitted as part of AK 10-001. This analysis revealed issues that will require additional information and/or possible revision through a corrective action plan (CAP). Under separate cover, CMS will release a letter detailing those issues, and providing guidance on timeframes for correction. Failure to make corrective action will result in voiding approval of this SPA.

I appreciate the significant amount of work that your staff dedicated to getting this SPA approved and the cooperative way in which we achieved this much-desired outcome. CMS anticipates continuing this cooperative relationship in completing the required corrective action. If you have any questions concerning this SPA, please contact me, or have your staff contact Lydia Skeen at (206) 615-2339 or Lydia.Skeen@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Carol J.C. Peverly
Acting Associate Regional Administrator
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health
Operations

cc: William Streur, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Health and Social Services