

December 19, 2002

Ms. Maria Morris
MS Health Benefits Program Coordinator
Department of Finance and Administration
Robert Lee Building
239 North Lamar Street, Suite 101
Jackson, MS 38202-1311

Dear Ms. Morris:

We are pleased to inform you that your State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) State Plan Amendment, submitted on September 30, 2002, with additional information submitted on December 13, 2002, has been approved. This amendment revises the SCHIP State plan to indicate the State's compliance with the final SCHIP regulations and to update program descriptions.

Your title XXI project officer is Jennifer Babcock. She is available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other SCHIP-related issues. Ms. Babcock'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, Maryland 21244-1850

Telephone: (410) 786-7219
Facsimile: (410) 786-5943
Email: jbabcock@cms.hhs.gov

Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Ms. Rhonda R Catrell, Associate Regional Administrator in our Atlanta Regional Office. Ms. Catrell's address is:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Division of Medicaid and State Operations
61 Forsyth NW, Suite 4T-20
Atlanta, GA 30303-8909

If you have additional questions, please contact Mr. Richard Chambers, 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/

Dennis G. Smith
Director

cc: CMS Region IV Office