

September 22, 2003

Ms. Diane Kessel
CHIP Coordinator, Department of
Social and Health Services Administration
P.O. Box 45536
Olympia, WA 98504-5536

Dear Ms. Kessel:

We are pleased to inform you that your State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) State plan amendment (SPA) submitted on June 25, 2003, with additional information submitted on July 23, 2003, has been approved. Specifically, this amendment allows coverage for unborn children with family incomes up to, and including, 185 percent of the Federal poverty level and who are not eligible for Medicaid. Coverage will begin at conception and continue through birth. Benefits will include prenatal care and associated health services for children.

Your title XXI project officer is Angela Corbin. She is available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other SCHIP-related issues. Ms. Corbin'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) 786-0620
Facsimile: (410) 786-5943
Email: acorbin@cms.hhs.gov

Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Ms. Corbin and to Ms. Karen O'Connor, Associate Regional Administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Region X, Division of Medicaid and State Operations.

Ms. O'Connor's Internet address is: Koconnor@cms.hhs.gov. Her mailing address is:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Division of Medicaid and State Operations
2201 Sixth Avenue, MS/RX-43
Seattle, Washington 98121

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

Thomas A. Scully

cc: CMS Region X Office