

June 21, 2004

Ms. Judith Arnold
Deputy Commissioner, CHIP
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower, Room 1495
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12237

Dear Ms. Arnold:

We are pleased to inform you that your State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) State Plan Amendment submitted March 23, 2004, with additional information submitted on May 6, 2004, has been approved. This amendment revises the SCHIP plan to implement a simplified renewal application, provide a 2-month grace period of eligibility at renewal, change the income verification process at renewal, and update other portions of the State plan.

Your title XXI project officer is Ms. Jennifer McGuigan 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, MD 21244-1850
Telephone: (410) 786-7219
Facsimile: (410) 786-5882
Email: jbabcock@cms.hhs.gov

Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Ms. Babcock and to Ms. Sue Kelly, Associate Regional Administrator in our New York Regional Office. Ms. Kelly's address is:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Division of Medicaid and State Operations
26 Federal Plaza, Room 3811
New York, NY 10278-0063

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If you have additional questions, please contact Ms. Jean Sheil, 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/

Mark B. McClellan, M.D., Ph.D.

cc: CMS Region II, New York