

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Medical Assistance

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Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary Craigan L. Gray, MD, MBA, JD, Director

April 28, 2011

Subject: NC Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) program

Dear County Director of Social Services:

The NC Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) program is no longer administered by DMA Third Party Recovery staff. DMA partnered with HMS, who assumed responsibility for administering the program on behalf of the Division beginning November 1, 2010.

The HIPP program provides a mechanism to purchase employer-sponsor health insurance coverage for medically expensive Medicaid recipients and their families. The HIPP program also considers the benefit of paying the premium for a family plan to include those in the family who are not eligible for Medicaid.

In the past, the HIPP program was viewed as a program for recipients with catastrophic illness. This description minimized its purpose and as a result, minimized the number of recipient participating in the program. In accordance with State Plan requirements and cost-effectiveness formulas, the HIPP program has broadened its availability to Medicaid recipients with high-cost medical conditions, such as asthma, diabetes and epilepsy, along with cardiac disease, renal failure, cancer, etc. In addition, recipients may qualify for the program because there are many children in the family.

Please continue to inform recipients of the HIPP program. Further information and access to an electronic and a printable application, is available on the HIPP website: <u>www.MyNCHIPP.com</u>. You may also contact the NC HIPP program by telephone, email or fax:

Phone: 1-855-MyNCHIPP (1-855-696-2447) Email: <u>customerservcie@MyNCHIPP.com</u> Fax: 1-855-888-3333

Please note: The HIPP application was revised effective November 1, 2010. All versions prior to that date are obsolete. An application, <u>DMA-2069</u>, is always available on the DMA forms website.



If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact your Medicaid Program Representative.

Sincerely,

Craigan L Gray, MD, MBA, JD, Director

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