MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 11-10     DATE: August 24, 2011

TO: County Welfare Agency Directors
    Statewide Eligibility Determination Agency

SUBJECT: Online Presumptive Eligibility Applications and Required Dispositions

As you are aware, the NJ FamilyCare/Presumptive Eligibility online application became mandatory effective January 1, 2011. This change has helped streamline the Presumptive Eligibility (PE) process and guarantees the receipt of PE applications. Our ability to track the outcomes of PE determinations has always been a significant part of this process, and continues to be important. It allows the PE Unit to track the rate of PE individuals who are determined eligible for NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid and continue PE until an application has been completed.

It is extremely important that the dispositions are returned when a PE case has been referred to your agency. When an application is received, no matter what the outcome, the disposition should always be returned to the PE Unit for tracking, and where indicated, further action. Dispositions are to be submitted by the end of the initial PE period especially when requesting an extension. Unlike Presumptive Eligibility Family Care (PEFC), a Presumptive Eligibility Pregnant Women (PEPW) provider can request an extension simply by completing another PE online application which further complicates the process. For each online application, a worker is assigned to the case which can cause duplicate cases. To prevent this from happening, a timely extension must be completed.

There is a concern from the providers that the PE Unit is permitting a lapse in coverage for individuals who have done everything they can to obtain a PE extension. It is very important to obtain timely dispositions to prevent this from occurring.

The Division requests that the County Welfare Agency (CWA) assign a contact person to act as a liaison between the CWA and PE Unit. Please contact Kathy Ivanochick in the PE Unit at 609-588-2787 with the liaison’s name and telephone number.
Your assistance in maintaining the effectiveness of this vital program is, of course appreciated.

If you have any questions regarding this Medicaid Communication, please refer them to the Division’s Office of Eligibility Policy field service staff for your agency at 609-588-2556.

Sincerely,

Valerie Harr
Director

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c: Jennifer Velez, Commissioner
   Department of Human Services

   Lynn Kovich, Assistant Commissioner
   Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services

   Dawn Apgar, Deputy Commissioner
   Division of Developmental Disabilities

   Jeanette Page-Hawkins, Director
   Division of Family Development

   Joseph Amoroso, Director
   Division of Disability Services

   Raquel Jeffers, Deputy Director
   Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services

   Allison Blake, Commissioner
   Department of Children and Families

   Mary E. O'Dowd, Commissioner
   Kathleen M. Mason, Assistant Commissioner
   Department of Health and Senior Services