

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Ries</i>	DATE <i>5/18/07</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOC NUMBER <i>000726</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE <i>5/25/07</i>		
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action		
<i>Closed 5/25/07, letter attached.</i>			

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

HARVEY S. PEELER, JR.
SENATOR, CHEROKEE, SPARTANBURG,
UNION AND YORK COUNTIES
SENATORIAL DISTRICT NO. 14

HOME ADDRESS:
POST OFFICE BOX 742
GAFFNEY, SC 29342



COMMITTEES:

MEDICAL AFFAIRS, CHAIRMAN
FINANCE
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
EDUCATION
INVITATIONS
FISH, GAME AND FORESTRY

SENATE ADDRESS:

P. O. BOX 142
213 GRESSETT SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
COLUMBIA, SC 29202
PHONE: (803) 212-6430
FAX: (803) 212-6299
E-MAIL: MED@SCSENATE.ORG

May 17, 2007

*Log: Ried
"Act. dis's"*

Ms. Susan Bowling
Interim Director
SC Department of Health
and Human Services
Post Office Box 8206
Columbia, SC 29202

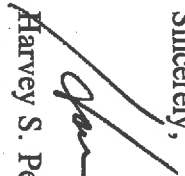
Dear Susan:

I recently received the attached letter from Paula Jones from Blacksburg. Ms. Jones is writing on behalf of her father, Jerry T. White. Mr. White applied for disability and was denied disability benefits.

Will you please contact Ms. Jones and determine whether there is any way to assist her father in obtaining health benefits? I do not know whether he has applied for Medicaid, but perhaps this is a possibility too.

Thank you for any help you can give Mr. White and his family is receiving health care assistance.

Sincerely,


Harvey S. Peeler, Jr.

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Paula Jones
246 Loves Farn Road
Blacksburg, SC 29702

RECEIVED

MAY 18 2007

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

April 16, 2007

I just want to express my deepest disappointment in our government's effort to take care of the elderly and disabled. My father, Jerry T. White, has worked seven days a week for 35 years in the pulpwood business. He served in military during Vietnam and has dedicated his life as a Christian man. As I write to you, he struggles every day with pain and disabilities. He has not been able to work since August 2006. My father hasn't had insurance since he and my mother divorced in 2002. He's been diagnosed with bulging discs in his lower back. He currently has trouble with numbness and pain in his arms and legs, he can't sit or stand for long periods of time. Some days, he cannot get out of his recliner. Most nights, he sleeps in his recliner. Yet, he has been turned down time and time again for disability benefits. My father is 61 years old. He can barely tend to the tomatoes growing on his back porch. Some days he can't even get outside to feed his beloved dog, he has to call his neighbor for help. I feel that it is our responsibility as a community, state and government to take care of the elderly and/or disabled members of our society. My father is currently receiving his medicines from the VA hospital due to his lack of income. The VA, while meets the basic needs, will not proceed with any invasive procedures to help my father with his current condition. As you can probably imagine my father is used to being very active and his disabilities and lack of income make it very hard for him live day to day. In addition to the physical problems is the mounting depression from lack of income and medical interventions. I am pleading to you to help me help my father. My father has contacted a lawyer in Spartanburg that deals with disability, but the likelihood of him being approved for disability benefits is very slim. If there is anything you can do for us, please let me know. Thanks so much for your dedication to our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paula Jones". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

Paula Jones
246 Loves Farm Rd
Blacksburg, SC 29702



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Susan B. Bowling
Acting Director

May 25, 2007

Ms. Paula Jones
246 Loves Farm Road
Blacksburg, South Carolina 29702

Dear Ms. Jones:

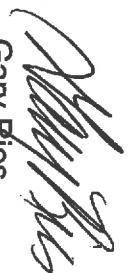
Senator Harvey Peeler contacted our agency regarding your father's Social Security disability claim and healthcare concerns.

The disability benefits program is administered through the Social Security Administration (SSA). We contacted SSA and were advised that Mr. White, or his legal representative, can request an expedited appeal hearing date by writing them and referencing a "dire need" situation based on his current medical condition and lack of health insurance coverage. Please call the Greenville SSA Office of Adjudication and Review at (864) 242-9154.

Medicaid uses the same criteria as SSA to determine eligibility for its Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) program. Enclosed is an overview of the Medicaid program along with an application for the ABD program. If your father's appeal with SSA is reversed, he may apply for Medicaid coverage based on his disability.

Also, enclosed are materials on organizations that provide assistance to individuals who lack the financial resources needed to obtain medications and other healthcare services. If you need additional assistance from our agency, please call Jennifer Dabbs at (803) 898-3965, as she will be happy to assist you. We hope this information proves helpful.

Sincerely,


Gary Ries
Deputy Director

GR/jd
Enclosures

126 ✓



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Susan B. Bowling
Acting Director

May 25, 2007

The Honorable Harvey S. Peeler, Jr.
Chairman, Senate Medical Affairs Committee
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Dear Senator Peeler:

Thank you for referring Ms. Paula Jones to our agency regarding Social Security disability benefits and healthcare concerns for her father, Jerry T. White. We appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance.

Program staff contacted the Social Security Administration (SSA) and were advised that Mr. White, or his legal representative, can request an expedited appeal hearing based on his medical condition and lack of health insurance. We provided Ms. Jones with the phone number for the Greenville SSA Office of Adjudication and Hearings to inquire about the status of Mr. White's case. Additionally, we provided Ms. Jones with information about the Medicaid program, along with an application, and materials on organizations that provide assistance to individuals who lack the financial resources needed to obtain medications and other health care services.

Thank you for your continued interest and support of the South Carolina Medicaid program. If I may be of further assistance on this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Susan B. Bowling
Susan B. Bowling
Acting Director

SBB/rjd

LEGISLATIVE LOG #	726
LEGISLATOR/INQUIRER	Senator Harvey S. Peeler, Jr.
CONSTITUENT	Paula Jones for father, Jerry T. White
SSN	
BC ASSIGNED LOG	Jacobs
DATE REC'D BY AGENCY	5/18/2007
DATE DRAFT DUE GR	5/25/2007
LOG LETTER DUE DATE	5/25/2007
DATE REFERRED TO BC	5/18/2007

Brief Description of Issue/Problem	Date	Staff Person	Phone #	Action Taken
In the process of appealing SSA decision. Will send overview of Medicaid and resources for assistance.	5/18/2007	Jan	8-2502	Jacobs box.
	5/21/2007	Jenny	8-3965	Unable to locate in MEDS, no contact phone number given. Prepared letters.
	5/21/2007	Jenny	8-3965	To Denise to proof.
	5/21/2007	Jenny	8-3965	To Alicia in Mark's absence.

CHECKLIST

Family Size	
Income/Resources	
Other Resources:	
Communicare	
FQHCs	
Free Medical Clinics	
Medicare	
MIAP	
Prescription Drug Programs	
Social Security	
Together Rx	

Programs:

ABD	(32)	
Foster Children	(31,60)	
General Hospital	(14)	
HCBS	(15)	
LIF	(59)	
MBCCP	(71)	
Nursing Home	(10)	
OSS	(85,86)	
PHC	(88)	
Pregnant Women & Infants	(12,87)	
QMB	(90)	
SILVERxCARD	(92)	
SLMB	(48,52)	
SSI	(80)	
TEFRA	(57)	
Transitional	(11)	
Working Disabled	(40)	