

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**

**ACTION REFERRAL**

TO <i>Johns Hopkins</i>	DATE <i>10-3-08</i>
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<b>DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY</b>	<b>ACTION REQUESTED</b>
1. LOC NUMBER  <i>200189</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE <i>10/9/08</i>
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR  <i>Emma Jenkins</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____
<i>Emma Jenkins</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____
<i>Emma Jenkins</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

APPROVALS <small>(Only when prepared for director's signature)</small>	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE <small>(Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)</small>	COMMENT
1. <i>Cleared 10/13/08, letter attached.</i>			
2.			
3.			
4.			

**Brad Hutto**  
South Carolina Senate District 40  
Orangeburg, Barmwell, Bamberg and  
Allendale Counties

Committees:  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Fish, Game and Forestry  
Judiciary  
Medical Affairs  
Rules



September 25, 2008

Senate Office Address:  
Suite 510 Gressette Office Building  
Post Office Box 142  
Columbia, South Carolina 29202  
Telephone: (803) 212-6140  
Fax: (803) 212-6299  
Email: [dh@scsenate.org](mailto:dh@scsenate.org)  
  
Home Office Address:  
Post Office Box 1084  
Orangeburg, South Carolina 29116  
Telephone: (803) 534-5218  
Fax: (803) 536-6298

**RECEIVED**

OCT 03 2008

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Emma Forkner, Director  
S.C. Department of Health and Human Services  
Post Office Box 8206  
Columbia, S.C. 29202-8206

Dear Director Forkner:

It is my understanding that the Department of Health and Human Services has been reviewing ways to absorb the 3% budget cut as mandated by the Budget and Control Board, and the funding for the Medicaid Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Services (MAPPS) is being eliminated to meet this need. I am very concerned about the potential funding elimination of this program that meets the needs of so many young individuals across the state and especially in my district. Teenage pregnancy is a very serious issue and one on which we have made positive strides, and I believe and lament in the fact that the elimination of this program will erase what we have gained.

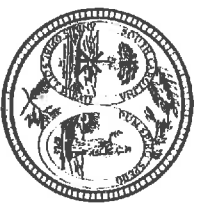
I have been in conversation with Forest Alton of the S.C. Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. He is much more versed in this issue than I, and I know that he is more than willing to meet with you on these concerns. I will be happy to assist in this issue as well and look forward to working with both of you. Please feel free to contact me, as to how I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Hutto". The signature is stylized with a large "B" and a cursive "Hutto".

Brad Hutto

cc: Forest Alton, Executive Director, S.C. Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, e-mail -  
[falton@teenpregnancysc.org](mailto:falton@teenpregnancysc.org)



State of South Carolina  
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford  
Governor

October 13, 2008

Emma Forkner  
Director

The Honorable Brad Hutto  
South Carolina Senate  
510 Gressette Office Building  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Senator Hutto:

Thank you for letter regarding Medicaid Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Services (MAPPS) and the agency's decision to eliminate it beginning January 1, 2009. This decision is largely a result of the 3% across-the-board cut ordered by the Budget and Control Board on August 12, 2008. That action translates into \$28.5 million reduction in state funds for the Medicaid program.

While we know MAPPS can be a valuable tool in addressing the problem of teen pregnancy, counseling services of this type are generally outside the scope of Medicaid's core mission to provide medical care coverage. By way of background, MAPPS is a service that was once funded through Department of Social Services (DSS) as part of their Teen Companion program. The service was moved to Department of Health and Human Services in 2001 because of a reduction in DSS funding.

Since many MAPPS providers also offer a range of other counseling services unrelated to teen pregnancy prevention, it has proven difficult to obtain the proper service documentation that the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services requires in order to match state expenditures with federal dollars.

My staff and I met with Mr. Alton on October 1 and explained the agency's view. I also offered him my assurance that we will have continued dialogue about MAPPS and the teen pregnancy issue in general. We will also open discussions with other state agencies, such as DHEC, to identify other potential strategies to combat teen pregnancy. Since Medicaid pays for 85 percent of all teen births in South Carolina, we have a vested interest in trying to reduce this very serious problem.

Thank you again for your interest. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you have additional questions about this, or any other Medicaid issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Emma Forkner".

Emma Forkner  
Director

EF:jip

Log 189  
to close