

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

**ACTION REFERRAL**

TO <i>Waldrip/Supra</i>	DATE <i>9-20-12</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>000078</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Mr. Keck cleared 10/25/12, letter attached.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>10-1-12</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

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

**RECEIVED**

SEP 18 2012

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

233 Farmington Court  
Lexington, South Carolina 29072  
September 14, 2012

Mr. Anthony Keck, Director  
Department of Health and Human Services  
P.O. Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29202

Dear Mr. Keck,

Something odd happened Tuesday afternoon. When I got off work, I returned a phone call made to my cell phone. I spoke with an Ms Belinda Adams from the Department of Health and Human Services. Ms Adams asked questions concerning my daughter Rebekah's caseworker. This being the second such call I had received in less than a week, I was leery of the emphasis of this line of questioning. I neither wanted to be in a situation of accountability for someone's work nor have my daughter placed in such a situation. It was then that I asked what this was all about.

When I was told why the questioning was taking place, I stated that she might be speaking to the wrong person. Last spring I was told by someone on your staff that I would never be able to make decisions concerning the care of Rebekah, only my wife. What a surprise to learn from Ms Adams that I was listed as the primary care giver of Rebekah.

Then an even great surprise was that when I asked to have my wife included as the primary care giver as well, Ms Adams listed her. I had been told that only one of us could make such decisions.

Now the question: Who is right? Why can I not have the right to speak for my daughter one day and then the next I can? Why is it that I was told that I could never make decisions for my daughter by one staff member, and then be recognized as the primary care giver by another? I may not be the smartest person, but this just not make sense to me.

Of course why should this be any different that my other dealings with DHHS. Rebekah was turned down for Medicaid in 2008, after having received it for years. When I questioned why, I was told I completed the wrong form. It was the form sent to us by your Lexington office. All I could get from the lady on the phone that day was "I don't know." After some fifteen minutes, she said she would send me the proper form.

When I completed that form and sent it in, Rebekah was once again rejected. Guess what? The wrong form.

Finally the third time I went to the Lexington office myself, as asked to speak to the person in charge. He would not see me. I meet with someone else and finally Mr. Tate came to that office to speak with me. He told me he had sent a letter in June. Then the story was it was sent in August. Finally he produced a copy of the letter he mailed, dated December 18. Just another lie.

Our feeling is that we have been singled out for some reason. When speaking with the parents of other children with special needs, they are shocked when they hear our story. None of them have experienced these problems. Why are we being harassed?

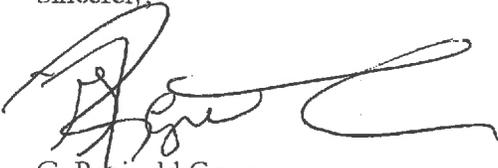
Recently we were told by one parent that a certain agency would grant her son an opportunity to work at their business without a MR waiver. We were told by the same agency that Rebekah could not. Why the difference?

We were informed last summer that Rebekah's MR waiver number was 2697. We have heard nothing since then. Has she moved up the ladder or down. The same parent said they denied the MR waiver for her son, so there would be one for someone else. So what is Rebekah's status? When will she receive her MR waiver? Why is there not enough money for her to have one?

These are questions I have been asking for over a year and no one wants to answer. Will you? The only resolve at this point for us is to meet with you personally. You may contact me at 803 687 0098. That is my cell phone, which I can not take with me to work, but will gladly call you back either later in the day or the next day.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



G. Reginald Cruse

cc: Governor Nikki Haley

233 Farmington Court  
Lexington, South Carolina 29702

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Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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Mr Anthony Keck, Director  
Department of Health and Human Services  
P.O. Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29202

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Log # 78



October 25, 2012

Mr. G. Reginald Cruse  
233 Farmington Court  
Lexington, South Carolina 29072

Dear Mr. Cruse:

We received your letter of September 11, 2012, which raised several questions about your previous interactions with the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) concerning your daughter, Rebekah. I know that you have discussed some of your concerns with staff during a recent phone conversation. I hope this correspondence addresses your questions in a more detailed and satisfactory manner.

Rebekah is currently enrolled in the Community Choices (CC) waiver program operated by Community Long Term Care at SCDHHS. She was referred for the CC waiver on September 7, 2011 and enrolled on October 13, 2011. Each waiver has different enrollment requirements, services and waiting lists. As a participant in the CC waiver program, Rebekah receives case management and adult day health care services; however, this waiver does not provide employment skills training and related services. The Intellectual Disabilities and Related Disabilities (ID/RD) waiver does offer these types of services.

The South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (SCDDSN) is responsible for the day to day ID/RD waiver operations including the management of waiting lists. Currently, Rebekah is on the waiting list for both the ID/RD and the Community Supports (CS) waivers. She is number 2,538 on the ID/RD waiting list and number 2,292 on the CS waiting list, as of October 1, 2012. Waiting lists exist because there are often more people seeking services than there are funds available to serve them. Both SCDHHS and SCDDSN will continue to work together to meet the needs of individuals like your daughter.

While Rebekah is on the ID/RD and CS waivers waiting lists, she can continue to receive services under the CC waiver. Ms. Deborah Mann at the Richland and Lexington Counties Disabilities and Special Needs Board can be contacted at (803) 252-5179 to give you future updates on Rebekah's waiting list status.

Case managers are required to identify the person who should be contacted to obtain personal health care information. In your daughter's case, our staff members have sought to identify the single individual considered as the primary decision maker for Rebekah since it is unusual for two individuals to be identified as the primary caregiver. Rebekah's file currently identifies both you and your wife as primary caregivers. Our staff is aware either one of you may be contacted to discuss her health care.

We apologize for the frustration you have experienced in not only trying to meet the health care needs of your daughter, but also in getting your questions and concerns addressed in a clear and consistent manner. It is our goal to always provide support and excellent service to all families. Please contact my office if you have any other questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Sam Waldrep  
Deputy Director