

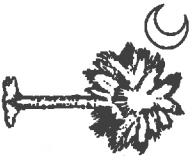
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO	DATE
<i>Baeling</i>	<i>1-8-07</i>

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER 000442	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE <i>1-16-07</i>
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>Cleaved 2/1/07, letter attached.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____ <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.			



Palmetto Legislative Partners Group

Steve Lanford
President

Post Office Box 378
Lexington, SC 29071
Tel: 803-794-7093
Fax: 803-794-7063

Doc Bowling
"Kerry's sign."

December 29, 2006

RECEIVED

JAN 08 2007

Department of Health and Human Services
Attn: Mr. Robert M. Kerr, Director
P.O. Box 8206
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

RE: In-Home Nursing Services

Dear Mr. Kerr:

Bob W

As you are aware, we are working with clients who provide In-Home Nursing Services to medically fragile children in South Carolina. It is our goal to work to provide the nurses, who care for these children in the In-Home Nursing Service program, a level of compensation that is well deserved and competitive. Current salaries and benefits are not commensurate with larger institutions and hospitals as reimbursement rates have not kept up with the rising costs related to wages and benefits, insurance, mileage, etc. The quality of life for a child and the family are greatly increased when services can be provided through an in-home setting and prevent unnecessary and expensive out-of-home placements.

To help us prepare for the FY 2007-2008 Budget Request, we respectfully request the following information from The Department of Health and Human Services:

- What is the current calculated sub-acute care rate?
- What agencies contract with DHHS for Medicaid reimbursement for this service?
- What additional state funds would be required to increase the hourly rate by \$1.00 for the children currently receiving this service?
- Is the reimbursement rate for this service still capped by the sub-acute care rate?

We know that the services provided by the In-Home Nursing Services program reduce unnecessary state expenditures by preventing the breakup of families and crisis that occurs with out-of-home hospital or nursing home placements.

We would be happy to meet with you or your staff to further discuss how we can work together to continue providing in home nursing care to the medically fragile children and families who are unable to financially provide for the medical care necessary to maintain the child in the home.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Steve Lanford
Steve Lanford



State of South Carolina

Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Robert M. Kerr
Director

February 1, 2007

Mr. Steve Lanford, President
Palmetto Legislative Partners Group
Post Office Box 378
Lexington, South Carolina 29071

Dear Mr. Lanford:

We have received your letter of December 29, 2006 regarding Medicaid nursing services. In response to your questions regarding reimbursement issues, we have restated your questions with the corresponding reply below:

- **What is the current calculated sub-acute care rate?**
Effective October 1, 2006, the current Medicaid sub-acute care rate is \$215 per day.
- **What agencies contract with DHHS for Medicaid reimbursement for this service?**
The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) contracts with a total of 67 state and private agencies for Medicaid nursing providing Medicaid nursing services. The five state agencies providing Medicaid nursing services are the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs, Department of Education, Department of Health and Environmental Control, Wil Lou Gray, and the School for the Deaf and Blind. The list of 62 Medicaid enrolled private providers is enclosed.
- **What additional state funds would be required to increase the hourly rate by \$1.00 for the children currently receiving this service?**
Medicaid nursing services are provided to individuals of varying ages and disabling conditions, and are not limited to medically fragile children. An additional \$1.00 per hour rate increase for FY2006-2007 would necessitate a projected total of \$200,000 in new state matching funds to be appropriated to the affected state agencies.

#442

Medical Services

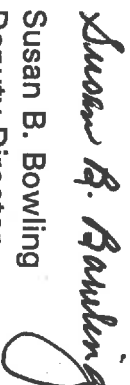
P.O. Box 8206 • Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206
(803) 898-2501 • Fax (803) 255-8235

Mr. Steve Lanford
February 1, 2007
Page 2

- Is the reimbursement rate for this service still capped by the sub-acute care rate?
As the comparative institutional cost, the sub-acute rate is used to calculate the maximum number of hours of nursing care that can be provided in the home.

We appreciate your interest in the Medicaid program. If you have further questions you may contact Mr. Roy Smith at 803-898-2590.

Sincerely,


Susan B. Bowling
Deputy Director

SBB/wsk

Enclosure

Home Based Nursing Providers in South Carolina	
Provider Name	
ACTIVE NURSING SERVICES	
ADVANCED CAREGIVERS	
ADVANCED HEALTHCARE STAFF	
ALLCAREGIVERS INC	
ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CARE	
BAYADA NURSES INC	
CARE PRO MEDICAL ONE	
CARING HANDS HEALTH CARE	
CARING INC	
CAROLINA HEALTH FORCE	
CAROLINA NURSES LLC	
GUARDIAN ANGEL HOME CARE	
HANDS OF GRACE HEALTHCARE	
HEALTH FORCE	
HEALTHCARE PRINCIPALS GROUP	
HEMOCARE ADVANTAGE INC	
HEMOCARE SOLUTIONS UNLTD	
INTERIM HEALTHCARE	
LOWCOUNTRY NURSING GROUP	
MAXIM HEALTHCARE SERVICES	
NEW BEGINNINGS DIABETIC	
NEW GENERATIONS HOME CARE	
NEW HORIZONS HEMOCARE	
NEW LIFE HEALTH CARE	
NIGHTINGALES NURSING	
NOC HOME CARE LLC	
NURSEFINDERS OF ROCK HILL	
NURSEPRO INC	
NURSES ARE US INC	
NURSES IN A MOMENT LLC	
NURSES ON CALL	
OPTIMAL HEALTHCARE SERVICE	
PALMETTO HEALTH PRIVATE SERVICE	
PEDIATRIC SERVICES OF AMERICA	
PRESTIGE HOME SUPPORT	
PROFESSIONAL NURSING SERVICE	
QUALITY HEALTH MANAGEMENT	
SENTINEL PRIVATE CARE UPSTATE	
VEE'S SITTER SERVICES	
VISITING PROFESSIONALS INC	
WINYAH COMMUNITY HEALTH	