

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

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Myers</i>	DATE <i>12-3-07</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER 000270	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Mr. For Kner Post Closed 12/12/07, letter attached.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE 12-13-07 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.			

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TO <i>Myers</i>	DATE
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	
1. LOG NUMBER 000270	_____ iture

2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Ms. Forney, Post</i>	_____ ure
<input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action	

*Seems to me we've
Received the
identical letter from
someone else?
g*

*Ben-Cam
back pp 17
The*

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



ANDRÉ BAUER
LEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of South Carolina
Office of The Lieutenant Governor

RECEIVED
DEC 03 2007
Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

POST OFFICE BOX 142
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202

November 28, 2007

*Log: Myers
cc: Wf, Kost
App svr.*

Mr. Bryan Kost
Dept. of Health and Human Services
Post Office Box 8206
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206

Dear Bryan:

Enclosed please find a letter addressed to the me regarding Ms. Kamke's son, Daniel. He is five years old. If you would please review the request and let her know if there is anything that might be in the planning stages on this front. If so, we would also appreciate your feedback.

Thanks for all of your assistance along the way.

With kind regards,

André Bauer
Lieutenant Governor

Enclosures

bh

Amber K. Kamke
639 Trenholm Trail
Fort Mill, South Carolina 29715
Home: (803) 548-3170
Cell: (704) 942-7496
Email: steber@comporium.net

Lieutenant Governor R. André Bauer
State House, 1st Floor
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

October 16, 2007

Dear Lt. Governor Bauer,

My five year old son, Daniel, currently receives therapies at Touchstone Therapy in Pineville, North Carolina. The therapies help work on his developmental delays to improve his speech, gross motor skills and fine motor skills. I am so fortunate to have such a wonderful pediatric clinic to take him to so he is able to receive speech, occupational and physical therapies- because not many providers accept South Carolina Medicaid, and there is no other place in the area that provides the quality of therapy like Touchstone. However, due to the low South Carolina Medicaid reimbursement rates, Touchstone Therapy will soon be unable to continue to provide my son with therapy.

→ The South Carolina Medicaid reimbursement rate is half of the reimbursement rate of North Carolina Medicaid- which is making it very difficult for Touchstone Therapy to cover their costs and continue to provide exceptional care to my son. In speaking with a representative from South Carolina Medicaid, Touchstone Therapy was told that the reimbursement rates would be increased- however, that was over a year ago. If the South Carolina Medicaid reimbursement rates are not increased within the next 90 days, Touchstone Therapy will be forced to discontinue their provider status with South Carolina Medicaid... and my son will not have any place to go to receive his much needed therapies.

I desperately need your assistance in facilitating a **rapid change** in the South Carolina Medicaid reimbursement rate for pediatric therapies. If this does not happen, my son will be at great risk of losing the tremendous progress he has made, and it will limit his ability to make further progress.

Please act now to help my son, Daniel, as well as many other families in the northern part of South Carolina who have children with special needs.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If you need any further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,





ANDRÉ BAUER
LEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of South Carolina
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Department of Health & Human Services
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Respectfully,





State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

#270
✓

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

December 12, 2007

The Honorable André Bauer
Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Dear Lieutenant Governor:

Thank you for forwarding Ms. Kamke's letter of October 16, 2007, regarding her concerns about Medicaid's reimbursement rates for rehabilitative therapies and the impact on providers. I appreciate your effort to keep us informed.

We received a similar letter from Ms. Kamke on the same date and I have enclosed a copy of our response for your records. Since our response to her letter, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid approved our state's proposed rate increases and allowed us to make the rates retroactive back to January 2007.

Again, thank you for bringing this matter to our attention. If we can be of further assistance to you in the future, please contact, Dr. James Bradford, Team Leader for School Based and Private Rehabilitative Therapy and Audiological Services at (803) 898-2655.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Costin Myers".

Felicity Costin Myers, Ph. D.
Deputy Director

FCM/hw

Enclosure



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Fortner
Director

October 18, 2007

Ms. Amber K. Kamke
639 Trenholm Trail
Fort Mill, South Carolina 29715

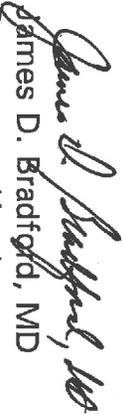
Dear Ms. Kamke:

Thank you for your recent letter of October 16, 2007 regarding your concerns about South Carolina Medicaid's reimbursement rate for our Private Rehabilitative Therapy providers. I appreciate you taking the time to write us.

Rate changes in any program involving federal funding requires approval from the federal government, in this case, the US Department of Health and Human Services, specifically with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). We have been working with the CMS Regional Office regarding our state's proposed rate increases for quite some time and feel that the approval of the new rates is imminent. Each state's rates are based on population, demographics, socioeconomic needs and the ability to pay the state match, therefore, rates and services vary from state to state.

Should Touchtone Therapy elect to withdraw as a provider with South Carolina Medicaid, I can assure you that we will find another provider that will offer the same type of services your son currently receives. Again, thank you for bringing your concerns to our attention.

Sincerely,


James D. Bradford, MD
Department Head
Private Rehabilitative Therapy Services