

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Giese</i>	DATE <i>8-23-12</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>101057</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Mr. Keck, Singleton, Kost</i> <i>Cleared 8/12/12, letter</i> <i>attached.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>9-4-12</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.			



Your Neighborhood Skin Care Specialist
220 Graces Way
Columbia, SC 29229
Office: (803) 736-4560

8-20-12

To Whom It May Concern:

I know that as an elected official you wish to make South Carolina a better place for all its citizens and help those in need. As a doctor, mother, churchgoer, free clinic worker, and charity donator, I want this too. Unfortunately what I have witnessed on a daily basis in recent months is disheartening and frustrating. I have 10 employees who work hard to take care of their families and they are also appalled at what they see. The following are just a few of examples of how persons receiving Medicaid have chosen to prioritize in a way so that they purchase luxury items and spend their time in leisure activities, while depending on hard-working citizens to pay for their healthcare:

1. A family arrived in a brand new Range Rover.
2. A family arrived in a brand new Escalade.
3. A 15 year old had a new top line nook.
4. A 10 year old had his own new I-phone
5. A 4 year old had a phone as did the mom, boyfriend, grandmother, and aunt all in the same room.
6. A man with a great tan was asked about working outside (he was there with his daughter) and he replied, "I spend almost every day in my boat fishing."
7. A mom and her three kids all came in with expensive bottled water and an I-pad.
8. I was told to write prescriptions for "Whatever cause I don't have to pay for it."
9. Four people did not show for their appointment nor did they call thus, blocking another person from a needed appointment slot and knowing they cannot be assessed a fee because they have Medicaid.
10. One child came for his appointment with 5 adults who admitted that none of them worked. None appeared to have a disability.
11. A mom called to change an appointment because they would be on a week cruise.

This happened all in just one week and it is a daily occurrence! *Of note: race was not a common denominator.*

For the record, I drive a suburban with 140,000 miles, work 60 hours a week, have 4 children (2 are adopted), drink tap water, and had a 99 cent flip phone until last year. My kids did not get phones until they started driving and I told my daughter that she did not need a nook, the library was free!

I just don't understand why we allow such an abuse of this system. There are true needs out there and if we would stop the abuse we could do so much more to help those who truly need it.

In closing, is there anything I can do to help stop the waste? Any committee I can be on? Any way to have my voice heard?

Thank you in advance for listening.

Lee Carson MD PhD
Lee S Carson, MD PhD

RECEIVED

AUG 23 2012

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Northeast Dermatology
220 Graces Way
Columbia, SC 29229

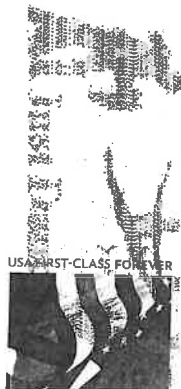
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Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

COLUMBIA, SC 290

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Tony Keck

1801 Main Street

Columbia, SC 29201-8206

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September 12, 2012

Dr. Lee Carson
220 Graces Way
Columbia, South Carolina 29229

Dear Dr. Carson:

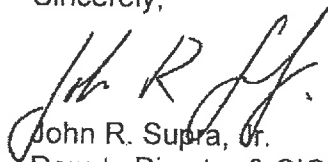
Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding observations you have made as a Medicaid provider, specifically your concerns about suspected Medicaid fraud or abuse. The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) takes Medicaid fraud and abuse very seriously.

If you suspect Medicaid fraud or abuse, please contact our Fraud Hotline at (888) 364-3224. Reports of suspected fraud or abuse can be made anonymously. Please provide specific details about the situation to assist in the investigation.

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) Division of Program Integrity is part of a statewide surveillance and utilization control system that safeguards against fraudulent, abusive, inappropriate and excessive use of Medicaid. Medicaid's Program Integrity receives tips through the fraud and abuse hotline and conducts investigations accordingly. Any reports of potential fraud or abuse are investigated by either SCDHHS and/or the South Carolina Attorney General's office.

We appreciate you bringing your concerns to our attention and we value your participation as a Medicaid provider in South Carolina.

Sincerely,


John R. Supra, Jr.
Deputy Director & CIO