

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO	DATE
Medical Services / Giese	1-27-11

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOC NUMBER	1001324	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____	
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR	Cleared 2/4/11, letter attached.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE 2-7-11  <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

JAN 25 2011

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Jan. 14-2011

To: Tony Beck.  
My name is Gloria Jean Heddi  
Tash, 55 years old. I hear  
about the reduction of the  
Program and it bothers me.  
I have diabetes, high blood  
pressure, chest pain, and several  
problems. Also I have a spinal  
disease. Can't work anymore  
because of the pain in my hip  
back neck and legs, and  
knees problems. I have  
not in for my disability  
benefits. Kind waiting for  
their decision. I can't  
get medical and medical  
costs I get my disability  
benefits it is very hard  
for me. I can understand the  
needs for people like me and  
others who disabilities it  
will be to lose out on  
these programs. It is  
important that we get  
the help we need.

God Bless you  
Gloria Jean Heddi

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

JAN 18 2011

RECEIVED

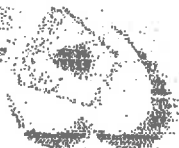
Alvin F. Medina  
1957 Elm Rd.  
Mass. S.C. 29414

Tony Black  
Director's office  
P.O. Box 8206  
Columbus, G.C. 29202-8206

Z920238206



CHARLESTON SC 294  
15 JAN 2011 PM 11



USA FIRST-CLASS



Log No. 0394

February 4, 2011

Ms. Gloria J. Geddis  
1757 Elm Road  
Charleston, South Carolina 29414

Dear Ms. Geddis:

Thank you for writing this agency regarding the upcoming Medicaid reductions and eliminations. We appreciate you bringing your concerns to our attention.

Determining which programs and services to reduce during such difficult times is always challenging. We deeply regret the impact that the reductions and eliminations may have on Medicaid beneficiaries. Unfortunately, we are forced to reduce and eliminate optional services so that we may continue to offer the core services that so many Medicaid beneficiaries depend on. After further review, several service reductions were reversed. Please refer to the attached news release for additional information. Individuals with certain medical conditions who require "medically necessary" services may be eligible to continue to receive some of the reduced services; however, their medical provider must make a special request in writing for review by the Medicaid agency's Medical Directors.

Regarding enrollment, the new federal healthcare reform law, and previously the stimulus package, prohibits the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services from changing any eligibility policy that would result in enrollment reductions. The eligibility guidelines listed below have not changed as a result of budget constraints.

To qualify for Medicaid benefits, an individual must meet certain state and federal financial guidelines, non-financial requirements and fit into one of the categories listed below:

- Individual receiving cash assistance such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Individual age 65 or older, blind or disabled (as defined by the Social Security Administration)
- Child under age 19
- Pregnant woman
- Family with a dependent child(ren)
- Woman diagnosed and found in need of treatment for breast and/or cervical cancer
- Individual qualifying for family planning services only

Gloria Geddis  
Page 2  
Insert Date Mailed

Although you are awaiting a decision from the Social Security Administration (SSA) regarding your disability benefits, you may apply for Medicaid; however, since Medicaid uses the same disability guidelines as the SSA, we must await their disability decision before making a Medicaid eligibility decision. If you meet all eligibility guidelines, you may be eligible to receive Medicaid coverage for up to three months prior to the date we receive your application. Enclosed is a *Medicaid Overview* along with an application. If you choose to apply, please return the completed application to the Charleston Medicaid Office: Post Office Box 13748, Charleston, SC 29422 or in person at 326 Calhoun Street, Charleston, SC 29401. Their phone number is (843) 740-5900.

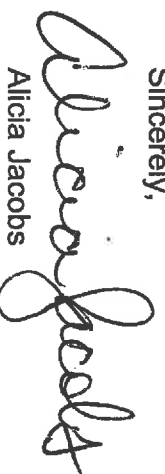
The Federal Government recently passed the *Affordable Care Act* that will make substantive changes to Medicaid's eligibility requirements; however, these changes will not take place until calendar year 2014. Already in place this year is the new "Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan" overseen by the US Department of Health and Human Services. To find out more about this plan or to apply for its coverage, please call 1-866-717-5826.

At the state level, the South Carolina Department of Insurance offers health insurance coverage to residents with pre-existing medical conditions who are considered "high risk" through the SC Health Insurance Pool. To find out more about the insurance pool coverage and rates, please call Blue Cross/Blue Shield of SC at 1-800-868-2500, Ext. 46401.

An alternate health insurance option called *Augeo Benefits* offers a variety of health insurance plans from top-rated insurance carriers at *affordable* rates. These plans include major medical, basic medical, critical illness and dental. Some plans are available regardless of pre-existing conditions. To inquire about their insurance premium rates, please call 1-866-273-5613.

Enclosed is information on other programs and organizations that can assist residents in South Carolina with their healthcare needs, prescriptions and daily living expenses. If you have additional questions or concerns about the Medicaid program, please contact Jenny Lynch in Constituent Services at (803) 898-3965.

Sincerely,



Alicia Jacobs  
Deputy Director

AJ/jgl  
Enclosures