

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO Floyd	DATE 5/15/08
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER 000596	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE 5/22/08		
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____		
cc: Forkner, Jacobs cleared 5/29/08, letter attached.		<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
<i>[Signature]</i>	5/21/08		
2. <i>[Signature]</i> M.O.	5/21/08		
3.			
4.			

FAX COVER SHEET

Senator Lindsey O. Graham
530 Johnnie Dodds Boulevard
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
(843) 849 3887 fax 971 3669

To: Ms. Emma Forkner, Director
Medicaid

Fax: 803 255 8235

From: Patricia Sykes

Date: May 15

Pages: 2 excluding cover sheet

Vincent Garrett—Medicaid Number 3780160458

Mr. Bruce White, Administrator for Mt. Pleasant Manor Nursing facility is requesting that Medicaid consider the back due child support payment of \$150.00 as a Dependent deduction.

If not, then the facility will be paying the child support payment for Mr. Garrett.

Can you review and determine is this is possible??



May 14, 2008

Senator Lindsey Graham
530 Johnnie Dodds Boulevard, Suite 202
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

Re: Mount Pleasant Manor
Resident: Vincent Garrett
Social Security Number: 249-06-9444
South Carolina Medicaid Number: 3780160458

Dear Senator Graham:

You graciously assisted me regarding this issue in 2007 and I am requesting your help again. I am writing to you from Mount Pleasant Manor, a skilled nursing facility, regarding our resident Vincent Garrett.

Mr. Garrett has been a resident at our facility since September 2003, and he will be here the rest of his life. He is a Medicaid recipient and receives total care. He came here due to a severe stroke which required brain surgery. He is also HIV positive.

Due to the Homeland Security Law, his total Medicaid benefit was terminated but due to your intervention his benefit was reinstated. Our remaining issue is that as a result of the recent intervention made by the Department of Assigned Counsel in Pierce County, Washington State, \$150 per month is deducted from his recurring income going back to 2007. This has resulted in a current private account balance of \$3,765 plus the ongoing loss of \$150 per month.

I contacted Ms. Helen Thomas, Medicaid Eligibility Administrator, located in Charleston, South Carolina, and asked if an income adjustment could be made to Mr. Garrett's monthly recurring income. We agreed that this was an unusual situation, one Ms. Thomas had not encountered. She posed the question to her superiors and informed me this week that due to policy and procedure Mr. Garrett's recurring income could not be adjusted to reflect the \$150 per month child support payment.

As a result, Mount Pleasant Manor is receiving the consequence of Mr. Garrett's prior failure to meet his financial obligations. In essence we are paying the monthly child

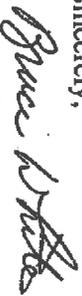
support payment. What I am requesting is that Mr. Garrett's recurring income be adjusted retroactive to July 2007 by \$150 per month.

Again, I want to emphasize that the nursing home should not be the victim in this scenario. Please help us find a solution that does not penalize the nursing home for care given and for the continued services he will receive the remainder of his life at Mount Pleasant Manor.

If you need more information please contact me at 843-884-8903. Sonja Woods, our Business Office Manager, will also be available to provide any further information. She can be reached at the same number.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Bruce White
Administrator

2500



State of South Carolina

Department of Health and Human Services

Log #596



Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

May 29, 2008

Mr. Bruce White, Administrator
Mt. Pleasant Manor
921 Bowman Road
Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Dear Mr. White:

Senator Lindsey Graham asked our agency to assist with your concerns regarding Medicaid coverage and the recurring income for Mr. Vincent K. Garrett.

Our staff carefully reviewed your request to exclude \$150 of Mr. Vincent's monthly recurring income, however, South Carolina Medicaid Policy 301.08.04 (attached), specifically precludes our agency from excluding this amount from Mr. Vincent's unearned income since it is a garnishment withheld from unearned income to meet a legal obligation. Should you have further questions concerning this policy please call Ms. Helen Thomas, Medicaid Regional Administrator in Charleston, at (843) 740-6958.

Thank you for your concern and for all you do to improve the health and quality of life for many of our state's citizens. We hope this information is helpful in understanding Medicaid policy and regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alicia Jacobs".

Alicia Jacobs
Executive Consultant

AJ/coll
Enclosure



Page # 596

State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

May 29, 2008

The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham
United States Senate
530 Johnnie Dods Boulevard, Suite 202
Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Dear Senator Graham:

Thank you for referring Mr. Bruce White, Administrator of Mt. Pleasant Manor, to our agency regarding his questions on Medicaid eligibility policy and income regulation requirements.

A member of our staff has been in direct contact with Mr. White regarding his concerns. We have carefully reviewed his questions and informed him of the Federal and State regulations governing Medicaid and income determination.

Thank you for your continued interest and support of the South Carolina Medicaid program. If I may be of further assistance on this or any other matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emma Forkner".

Emma Forkner
Director

EF/fcoll