

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

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Jacobs</i>	DATE <i>4-28-09</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER <i>100610</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE <i>5-5-09</i>		
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Ms. Forkner Closed 5/5/09, 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.			

JOE WILSON
2ND DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
RANKING, PERSONNEL SUBCOMMITTEE
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
EDUCATION AND LABOR
HOUSE POLICY

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COUNTIES:

AIKEN*
ALLEDALE
BARNWELL
BEAUFORT
CALHOUN*
HAMPTON
JASPER
LEXINGTON
ORANGEBURG*
RICHLAND*
(*PARTS OF)

W. ERIC DELL
CHIEF OF STAFF
AND COUNSEL

April 23, 2009

RECEIVED

APR 24 2009

ELIGIBILITY POLICY
& OVERSIGHT

RECEIVED

APR 28 2009

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Ms. Denise M. Epps
Constituent Services
SC Dept. of Health and Human Services
PO Box 8206
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Re: Mr. John Edward Quarles III
921 Swygert Rd
Blythewood, SC 29016

Dear Denise,

I am writing to you on behalf of the above named constituent who has contacted me regarding an issue involving the SC Dept. of Health and Human Services. Enclosed is correspondence from Mr. Quarles further explaining the concerns. Your kind attention in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

It is an honor to represent the people of the Second Congressional District, and I value your input. Thank you for your time and concern in this and all other matters.

Please respond to the Midlands District Office at 1700 Sunset Blvd., Suite 1, West Columbia, South Carolina 29169. The phone number is 803-939-0041. The fax number is 803-939-0078. The e-mail address is Brad.Leake@Mail.House.Gov

Very truly yours,



JOE WILSON
Member of Congress

JW:BL

MIDLANDS OFFICE:
1700 SUNSET BLVD. (US 378), SUITE 1
WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29169
(803) 939-0041
FAX: (803) 939-0078

212 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4002
(202) 225-2452
FAX: (202) 225-2455
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LOWCOUNTRY OFFICE:
903 PORT REPUBLIC STREET
P.O. Box 1538
BEAUFORT, SC 29901
(843) 521-2530
FAX: (843) 521-2535

TOLL FREE 1-888-381-1442



CONGRESSMAN JOE WILSON

Second District of South Carolina

Privacy Release

Consent for Release of Personal Records by Executive Agencies

To Whom It May Concern:

I have sought assistance from the Office of Congressman Joe Wilson on a matter that may require the release of information maintained by your agency, and which may be prohibited from dissemination under the Privacy Act of 1974. I hereby authorize you to release all relevant portions of my records or to discuss information involved in this case with Congressman Wilson or any authorized member of his staff until the matter is resolved.

On Cheryl Dicks, Department of Mental Health, Dr. McConnell
Three Rivers, West Virginia TERP
Name of Agency: Continuum of Care, Department of Social Services
Brenda Rae Merritt
Name (please print) March 12, 1963
Date of Birth
921 Snygert Road, Bluffton SC 29916
Address City Zip
215-48-3223
Social Security Number
803-735-0538
E-mail Address
bmerritt@unum.com
Telephone Number - Home
803-665-2330
Telephone Number - Cell
803-665-2330
Signature Brenda Rae Merritt Today's Date April 22, 2009

Please briefly explain your concern (use the back if necessary): Long term

Residential treatment is needed for my
son John E. Quares III, Date of Birth
01-05-1996, Social Security Number
247-99-2725. We have exhausted our private
Congressman Joe Wilson (SC-02) Insurance benefits.
1700 Sunset Boulevard, Suite 1 | West Columbia, SC 29169
Phone: (803) 939-0041 | Fax: (803) 939-0078

Leake, Brad

From: Wallace, Butch
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2009 4:59 PM
To: Leake, Brad
Subject: FW: Issue in South Carolina

Brad, touch base with good people thanks BW

From: Merritt, Brenda Kae [mailto:BMerritt@unum.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2009 3:20 PM
To: Wallace, Butch
Subject: Issue in South Carolina

First it was such a pleasure meeting you and Congressman Wilson at Colonial Life and that you were both receptive to hearing my concern.

I have a thirteen year old son named Trey (John Edward Quarles III) who has AD/HD and Bipolar II. Trey has been in the Three Rivers Behavioral Health Hospital four times since December 26, 2008 with his last his last date of release of April 3, 2009. For the most part our private insurance has paid for Trey's mental health care and counseling sessions however we are in a quandary on how to get him the residential treatment he needs in order to be a productive and functional person in society. If we do not get him the help he needs he may or may not be able to function later in life.

We have used our own means and private insurance to help our son however our private insurance will not help pay for residential treatment nor do we have the funds to pay for this treatment. We have applied for TEFFRA Medicaid and for the Continuum of Care program, however, my understanding from the personnel that run the programs is the process is very long and there are long waiting lists. I have called the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Social Services seeking help and or direction and have been given advice such as *you can sell your house to pay for treatment, I can deem my son incorrigible and turn him over to the state or turn him over to DJJ and then he will receive the treatment he needs.*

I am very heart broken as none of these options are what my son needs. I am not asking for the state to handle things for me nor am I asking the state to pay for all the services he needs. I am asking for help to my help my son and am not finding anyone who can provide an answer to me.

Congressman Wilson has been and I feel always will be supportive to the needs of mental health issues. I appreciate your time and attention to this issue and look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Brenda Kae Merritt, 921 Swygert Road, Blythewood, SC 29016
(803) 735-0538

Brenda Kae Merritt

4/22/2009

Information Specialist II, Facilities Management
Unum

1200 Colonial Life Boulevard
SC 101

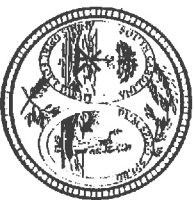
Columbia, SC 29210

bmeritt@unum.com

(803) 213-2569 Office

(803) 665-2330 Cell

(803) 213-2341 Facsimile



Log # 0610

State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

April 5, 2009

The Honorable Joe Wilson
United States House of Representatives
Midlands District Office
1700 Sunset Boulevard, Suite 1
West Columbia, South Carolina 29169

Dear Congressman Wilson:


Thank you for contacting our agency on behalf of Brenda Merritt regarding Medicaid eligibility and the healthcare needs of her son, John E. Quarles III (Trey).

A member of my staff has been in direct contact with Ms. Merritt regarding the application process for the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) program. We will continue to monitor Trey's TEFRA application closely and will notify Ms. Merritt once a decision is made.

We also provided Ms. Merritt with contact information for the Continuum of Care's Selection Coordinator so that she may inquire about the status of Trey's application with their agency.

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,


Emma Forkner
Director

EF/jcl



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

May 4, 2009

Ms. Brenda Merritt
921 Swygert Road
Blythewood, South Carolina 29016

Dear Ms. Merritt:

Congressman Joe Wilson contacted our agency on your behalf regarding your concerns about Medicaid eligibility and the residential treatment needs of your son, John E Quarles III (Trey).

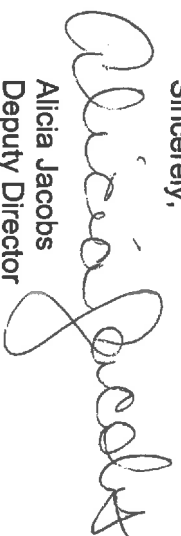
You applied for the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) program for Trey on March 31, 2009. We are currently reviewing Trey's application to determine his eligibility. We will process his application as quickly as possible, and notify you once a decision has been made. In the meantime, if you have any questions about the process, please contact his eligibility worker, Monica Williams, at (803) 898-8084 and she will be happy to assist you.

Your letter mentions that you are seeking placement in a residential care facility for Trey. Once Trey resides in a facility for 30 days, he would be considered an individual for Medicaid eligibility purposes and may qualify for Medicaid through the Partners for Healthy Children program since we would not count your income in our determination at that time.

We contacted the Continuum of Care on your behalf and were told that your completed application was received on April 24, 2009 and is currently being reviewed to determine if Trey meets their eligibility guidelines. If he is determined eligible, he will then be placed on the waiting list for placement. To inquire further about the status of Trey's application with the Continuum of Care, please contact the Selection Coordinator, Tamicka Jackson, at (803) 737-4498 or her supervisor, Brooks Hanson, at (803) 737-1607.

If you have additional questions about the Medicaid program, please contact Jennifer Lynch in Constituent Services at (803) 898-3965. We hope this information proves helpful.

Sincerely,


Alicia Jacobs
Deputy Director

AJ/cl

Medicaid Eligibility and Beneficiary Services
P.O. Box 8206 • Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206
Phone (803) 898-2502 • Fax (803) 255-8235