

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Bowling</i>	DATE <i>8-1-06</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>000130</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>Claud 8/28/06 letter attached.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>8-10-06</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.			

June 26, 2006

SCDHHS
PO BOX 8260
Columbia South Carolina
29202-8206

RECEIVED

AUG 01 2006

Dos. Bowling
"Approp. Sign."

Medicaid Department

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

To: SCDHHS

From: Sonia Jones

Loris S.C. 29569

Re: South Carolina Medicaid for Minors

Dear Sir or Madam:

Subject: Request for Changes to South Carolina Medicaid Laws for Minors

I am a 40 year- old single parent of two children, Choe age 4 and Jared age 13. I am a student (junior year) at Coastal Carolina University majoring in Elementary Education. I am currently unemployed and pay my bills with the child support I receive and through scholarships I have earned by maintaining a 3.8 G.P.A. I recently took Jared to his dentist, (Dr. Wesley Teal, Loris SC) and was told he had two teeth impacted near his nasal cavity and that this situation contributed to Jared's recurrent sinus infections and that he also needed orthodontic work as well. Dr. Teal referred me to Dr. Edward F. Eckert, Jr. DDS of Conway to have these teeth exposed and to Dr. Green of Little River for braces. Dr. Eckert asked me if I had North Carolina or South Carolina Medicaid and stated that North Carolina would pay for such a procedure but that South Carolina would not. Dr. Green stated that S.C. Medicaid would not pay for braces although North Carolina does. As I cannot presently afford the costs of this procedure, \$1500.00 for the exposure of Jared's teeth and \$3500.00 for braces, my only recourse for getting these medically necessary procedures done is to appeal to you for consideration of changing the current South Carolina Medicaid laws pertaining to oral surgery and orthodontic care for minors. Jared's father is unwilling to offer any financial assistant beyond the amount mandated by current S.C. child support guidelines. This amount is not sufficient to cover the rising cost of caring for a teenaged boy. I would greatly appreciate your consideration in changing the current law as these changes would be a colossal help to myself and to other single parents in this state who are trying to lovingly provide for our children without available family or other support.

With kindest regards,

Sonia J. Jones

Sonia Jones

Constituent of the State of South Carolina

cc: Honorable Governor Mark Sanford

US Senator Lindsey Graham

Honorable SC Senator Dick Elliott

South Carolina Representative Tracy Graham

Log #130



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Robert M. Kerr
Director

August 28, 2006

Ms. Sonia Jones
4695 Devine Street
Loris, South Carolina 29569

Dear Ms. Jones:

Thank you for your letter regarding dental and orthodontic services provided to South Carolina Medicaid beneficiaries. We appreciate your taking the time to share your situation with us.

South Carolina Medicaid covers the exposure of impacted teeth to aid in their eruption for beneficiaries under twenty-one years of age. However, budget constraints prohibit the coverage of orthodontic treatment except for beneficiaries with severe orthodontic situations. Specifically, the beneficiary must have severe craniofacial anomalies as a result of birth defects or syndromes to qualify for orthodontic treatment to be reimbursed by the South Carolina Medicaid program. Eligibility for orthodontic treatment is arranged through the Children's Rehabilitative Services (CRS) Program administered by the Department of Health and Environmental Control.

I regret that we could not be of more assistance. If you have any further questions, please contact Ms. Shirley Carrington in the Dental Program area at (803) 898-2563.

Sincerely,

Susan B. Bowling
Susan B. Bowling
Deputy Director

SBB/mhc

Medical Services
P. O. Box 8206 Columbia South Carolina 29202-8206
(803) 898-2501 Fax (803) 255-8205