


DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| TO <i>Jacobs</i> | DATE <i>2-4-08</i> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|

| DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY | ACTION REQUESTED |
|---|--|
| 1. LOG NUMBER 000406 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE <i>2-11-08</i> |
| 2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>Cleaved 2/12/08, 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 |
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| 1. | | | |
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| 3. | | | |
| 4. | | | |

JOE WILSON
2ND DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
EDUCATION AND LABOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
HOUSE POLICY

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COUNTIES:

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BARNWELL
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JASPER
LEXINGTON
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(*PARTS OF)

DINO TEPPARA
CHIEF OF STAFF
AND COUNSEL

January 31, 2008

RECEIVED

FEB 04 2008

Log: Jacobs
Dir Sign.

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Ms. Emma Forkner
Director
SC Department of Health and Human Services
Post Office Box 8206
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206

RE: Mr. and Mrs. Price Harvey for their son
Brantley Cameron Harvey
SSN 250-63-8605

Dear Ms. Forkner,

I am writing to you on behalf of the parents of Brantley Harvey who has contacted me regarding Medicaid and/or any kind of help for their son. Brantley sustained a near fatal head injury when he was struck by a car in 2004. Enclosed is a copy of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey's letter for your perusal. Any assistance that you could offer would be most appreciated.

It is an honor to represent the people of the Second Congressional District, and I value your input.

Please respond to the Midlands District Office at 1700 Sunset Blvd., West Columbia, South Carolina 29169; Fax number 803-939-0078. Thank you for your time and concern in this and all other matters.

Yours very truly,

Joe Wilson

JOE WILSON
Member of Congress

JW/jmc
Enclosure

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
www.joewilson.house.gov

LOWCOUNTRY OFFICE:
903 PORT REPUBLIC STREET
P.O. Box 1538
BEAUFORT, SC 29901
(843) 521-2530
FAX: (843) 521-2535

JOE WILSON

2ND DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP

COMMITTEES:

ARMED SERVICES

EDUCATION AND LABOR

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

HOUSE POLICY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

January 31, 2008

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DINO TEPARA
CHIEF OF STAFF
AND COUNSEL

Ms. Emma Forkner

Director

SC Department of Health and Human Services

Post Office Box 8206

Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206

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Member of Congress

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Enclosure

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Fax: (843) 521-2535

TOLL FREE 1-888-381-1442

JOE WILSON
2ND DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

COMMITTEES:

ARMED SERVICES

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

HOUSE POLICY

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COUNTRIES:
AIKEN*
ALLENDALE
BARNWELL
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JASPER
LEXINGTON
ORANGEBURG*
RICHLAND*
(*PARTS OF)
ERIC DELL
CHIEF OF STAFF

Consent for Release of Personal Records by Executive Agencies

Name of Agency: _____

To whom it may concern:

I have sought assistance from 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.

Branthey Cameron Harvey 2-16-86
Name of Claimant (Please Print) Date of Birth

810 North Eden Dr Layce SC 29033
Address of Claimant

250-63-8605
Social Security Number

403 791-4246

Telephone Number-Home

VA Claim # or OPM # (if applicable)
403 730 7283 father cell
403 240 5745 mother cell

Telephone Number-Work

Shirley R. Harvey Mother/guardian
Signature of Claimant

1-25-08
Today's Date

Please briefly explain your concern: see attached letter
(use the back if necessary)

MIDLANDS OFFICE:
1700 SUNSET BLVD. (US 578), SUITE 1
WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29169
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 7381
COLUMBIA, SC 29202
(803) 938-0041
FAX: (803) 938-0078

212 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4002
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E-MAIL: joe.wilson@mail.house.gov
WEBSITE: www.house.gov/joewilson

LOWCOUNTRY OFFICE:
903 FORT REPUBLIC STREET
P.O. BOX 1538
BEAUFORT, SC 29901
(843) 521-2530
FAX: (843) 521-2535

Mr. and Mrs. Price Harvey
810 North Eden Drive
Cayce, SC 29033
803-791-4246

January 24, 2008

Congressman Joe Wilson
Midlands Office
1700 Sunset Blvd
Suite 1
West Columbia, SC 29169

Dear Congressman Wilson,

We are writing with a request for your help with benefits, resources and assistance that is available for our 21-year-old son, Cameron. While a college student in Charleston, he sustained a severe head injury in an accident involving a skateboard and a car on May 24, 2007. He appeared to be making a wonderful recovery initially. He then developed complications that included hospital acquired MRSA in his brain fluid and hospital caused brainstem herniation. These complications caused additional brain damage from the original injury, three additional brain surgeries, and account for over two thirds of the cost of his hospital stay.

Cameron is currently insured by the SC State employee insurance plan through Blue Cross Blue Shield since I, his mother am a Lexington School District 2 State employee. These benefits will soon cease, as he will reach the maximum lifetime benefit of one million dollars within days. His medical condition will still require 24-hour care and extensive rehabilitation. We do not know how long the rehabilitation will take as he simply lost most motor and verbal skills. He is receiving Rehabilitation therapies at Health South in Columbia as part of their outpatient Day Program. This includes Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy as well as group therapy sessions.

Since time is of the essence with the recovering brain, our first immediate need is your help with finding a way to have the BCBS benefits package expanded now rather than having to wait until next year's enrollment and implementation in January 2009. In October, when the opportunity to change the package was available, we had not started receiving bills and had no idea that the MUSC bill would be almost nine hundred thousand dollars and would in effect take the entire lifetime benefit amount. We were shocked to know that we would be charged for cost incurred from hospital error. Attached is a brief explanation of his injury, hospitalization course and recovery to give you an overview of his complete medical condition. We are happy to pay the increased

amount of an expanded plan and know there must be a process to make these changes at a time other than the October window.

Our second immediate need is your help in expediting the Medicaid approval process. We applied to Medicaid for him sending all required information in September 2007 through Shepherd Center. However, difficulties with the local Medicaid approval process and communication with the staff assigned to our son have delayed any possible benefits. It appears that most of the available resources for him are tied to this initial approval. We don't mean to be overly anxious parents, but timing is critical. We applied in the fall but had not received approval before his discharge from Shepherd. We gladly had to bear the expense of renovating our home to accommodate his needs such as a complete bathroom renovation and wheelchair accessible home. Monies for this are available only after approval by Medicaid and apparently not reimbursable after the fact under the current guidelines. We could not wait, however, because we could not get him into our home, bedroom or bathroom.

We are in desperate need of care assistance, which is also available after Medicaid approval.

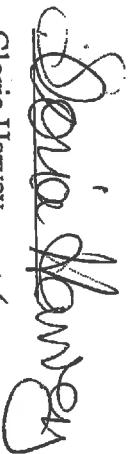
Price, Cameron's father, sold his company to finance the home renovation, purchase an appropriate vehicle for transporting, maintain household expenses and become primary caregiver for Cameron. He participates in the daily therapy sessions and provides care for bathroom, meals, etc. during the day at Health South.


We also have another son in Medical School in Charleston and a daughter at USC. After 8 months of living between Charleston, Cayce and Atlanta, the expense has been horrendous and our resources are exhausted. It is imperative that we receive this assistance, so Price can return to work to sustain our household and begin paying off these medical debts.

We are asking for your help in anyway possible and give you permission to discuss his situation with the appropriate individuals. We are his temporary guardians and are able to give this permission.

We appreciate whatever help you can give us with these matters. Any and all of these will make a difference in our lives and Cameron's quality of life. Appropriate rehabilitation for him could be the difference in living a happy productive life or just living.

Thank you,


Gloria Harvey


Price Harvey

Attachment:

Cameron's injury, hospitalization, and recovery process.

May 24, 2007- Sustained head injury, Charleston, SC. Police report and physicians stated his injury appeared to be that of being hit by a car while on a skateboard.

May 25th-Surgery to remove part of his skull to relieve pressure and protect the brain. Within a week to 10 days, Cameron was walking, talking, joking, reading and writing. However, brain fluid became an issue. It built up and caused pressure on the brain stem and non-injured side of the brain but since he was still in Neurological ICU, was relieved quickly with little apparent damage.

June 2007 – It was decided to replace the piece of skull that had previously been removed to allow the brain pressure and fluid to normalize. This surgery initially appeared to have accomplished this. However, Cameron developed not one or two but three life-threatening infections in his brain one of which was the MRSA that is so difficult to deal with. Most of the time only one infection is acquired. He also acquired infections in his body that were treated.

July 4, 2007 -Another brain surgery to remove the piece of skull and clean infection out of his brain. He amazingly recovered from these as well and was eating, talking, watching TV, writing and playing games such as nerf basketball in his hospital room, and was moved out of ICU to the neurological floor.

The brain fluid was still not being reabsorbed by his brain, and was allowed to build up in his head. They performed spinal taps 3 days in a row to relieve the pressure and decided to put a lumbar drain in to pull fluid from his spine and subsequently from his brain.

July 25, 2007 lumbar drain put in with loss of a large amount of fluid. This is where hospital staff mismanaged his care and allowed too much fluid to be removed too fast. His father and I requested several times that the doctor be called to look at Cameron, because it didn't look right.

July 26, 2007 early in the morning his brain stem herniated again and requests to have him looked at were ignored for several hours by the nursing staff. Finally a doctor came and recognized the brainstem herniation and Cameron was moved back to ICU.

August 2007- Cameron had 4 surgeries to place a prosthetic piece of skull in his head, place a gastric tube in his stomach, give him a tracheotomy and another one to put in a shunt (a tube that removes fluid from the brain). Cameron was no longer able to move

his right arm or leg, speak, or interact with others. The shunt should have been done initially in June and it would have made a difference in Cameron's life.

September 4, 2007- Transferred to Shepherd Center in Atlanta via Med Flight.

September 25, 2007- Applied for Medicaid via staff at Shepherd Center.

November 7, 2007- Discharged to home for continued rehabilitation therapy.

December 22, 2007- Called Medicaid because letter received stating that application was incomplete. After many calls, paperwork was resubmitted via fax and confirmed received by a different person other than Lexington staff person. Application process would have needed to be completely restarted if it had not been received by January 1 including doctor's letters.

January 2008- Still have not heard from Medicaid. Today I found out that the Social Security number was entered wrong on the Medicaid computer. I have left numerous messages, but am unable to find out the status of the application.

I have been notified that the lifetime maximum on BCBS plan will be reached soon and Cameron will have no insurance coverage by my plan.

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OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

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| 2. <i>[Signature]</i> | <i>2/11/08</i> | | |
| 3. | | | |
| 4. | | | |

Log 6406



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

February 12, 2008

Ms. Gloria Harvey
810 North Eden Drive
Cayce, South Carolina 29033

Dear Ms. Harvey:

Congressman Joe Wilson contacted our agency in regards to your son, Mr. Brantley Harvey, and his healthcare needs.

We are pleased to inform you that Mr. Harvey's application for Medicaid coverage under the Aged, Blind or Disabled program has been approved retroactively to August 1, 2007. You should be receiving the approval letter within the next two weeks. The Medicaid card will be mailed to Mr. Harvey and may be used immediately for Medicaid covered services. If Mr. Harvey's medical providers accept Medicaid and are willing to bill the program for services since that date, please have them submit their claims to us as soon as possible.

In an effort to be of assistance, we wrote the SC Employee Insurance Program on Mr. Harvey's behalf and asked them to look into your situation and contact you. We also enclosed information on other programs and organizations that can assist Mr. Harvey with his healthcare services, prescriptions, inpatient hospitalization and daily living needs.

If you have additional questions about the Medicaid program, please contact Sheila Chavis at (803) 898-2707. We hope this information is helpful to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alicia Jacobs".

Alicia Jacobs
Interim Deputy Director

AJ/cdc



Log 6406

State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

February 12, 2008

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 referring Ms. Gloria Harvey to our agency regarding her son, Brantley Harvey, and his healthcare needs.

A member of our staff has been in direct contact with Ms. Gloria Harvey, Mr. Brantley Harvey's authorized representative, and we were pleased to address her questions regarding the Medicaid program. We made a referral to the Employee Insurance Program of the South Carolina Budget and Control Board regarding Mr. Harvey's need for an expanded benefits package. We also provided Ms. Harvey with information on other programs and organizations that can assist residents in South Carolina with their healthcare services, prescription medications, inpatient hospitalization and daily living needs.

We appreciate 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, appearing to read "Emma Forkner".

Emma Forkner
Director

EF/fjcdc

Log 146



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

February 12, 2008

Mr. Rob Testor, Director
South Carolina Budget and Control Board
Employee Insurance Program
1201 Main Street, Suite 300
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Mr. Testor:

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services received a letter from Mrs. Gloria Harvey on behalf of her son, Brantley Harvey, regarding his insurance benefits. Mr. Harvey is currently insured with the SC State Employee Insurance Program through Blue Cross Blue Shield, and he has reached the maximum lifetime benefit of one million dollars. Mrs. Harvey would like to have her son's Blue Cross Blue Shield benefits package expanded now, rather than wait until the next open enrollment period. I would appreciate it if your office could contact Mrs. Gloria Harvey at (803) 791-4246 or (803) 240-5745 to respond to her questions about her son's insurance coverage.

Thank you for any assistance your staff may be able to offer Mrs. Gloria Harvey in this regard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alicia Jacobs".

Alicia Jacobs
Interim Deputy Director

AJ/cdc