



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

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TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

(609) 588-2600

ALAN J. GIBBS
Commissioner

SAUL M. KILSTEIN
Director

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO: 92-21

DATE: July 14, 1992

TO: County Welfare Agency Directors - For Your Information

SUBJECT: ABC Program - Home and Community Based Services Waiver for Medically Fragile Children

The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) is pleased to announce a new program, the ABC Program, which is a joint venture between DMAHS and the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS). In accordance with the Federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 and amendments thereto, this program was developed to help eligible children remain in the community or to return to the community, rather than be cared for in a nursing facility or hospital setting. The effective date for implementation of the program is July 1, 1992.

The purpose of this Communication is to inform County Welfare Agencies of this new waiver program, which has just been approved by the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The program will be implemented for three years and is renewable for five year periods, as long as Federal requirements are met. The program will have 300 slots in the first year, 400 and 500 in the second and third years respectively.

The special services provided under this waiver include: case management, homemaker services, respite care, environmental modifications, specialized medical equipment and supplies, private duty nursing, specialized nutrition, pediatric hospice, special home service provider (SHSP) supervision (care that goes beyond the expectation of ordinary foster parents), SHSP transportation, specialized group foster care homes, and non-legend drugs. In addition to these special services provided under the waiver, all regular Medicaid State Plan Services, except nursing facility care, are available to the children eligible for the ABC Program.

To be eligible for the program, children must be in need of institutional care and meet, at a minimum, Medicaid's nursing facility criteria. Children through the age of 21 who are under the care and supervision of DYFS, whether in their

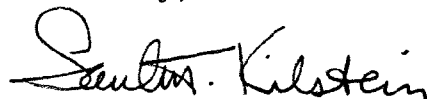
own homes, with extended family or in DYFS placements will be served. Children may be categorically needy or optionally categorically needy. Optionally categorically eligibles must be determined disabled by the Social Security Administration or DMAHS's Disability Review Section. There is no deeming of parental income or resources.

DYFS has the overall responsibility for administration of the program as well as being the single provider of all services (contracting with individuals/agencies). All providers will bill DYFS directly for waiver services provided under the ABC Program.

Medicaid District Office staff will perform the initial PreAdmission Screening of all children entering the program and DYFS nurse case managers will carry out the reassessment process, as well as work directly with families to carry out the individual plans of care. The DMAHS/Office of Home Care Programs will review/approve individual plans of care and will meet regularly with DYFS to monitor the program.

For additional information regarding this program, please contact Carol Kurland, Administrator, Office of Home Care Programs, at (609) 588-2620.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Saul M. Kilstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Saul" and last name "Kilstein" clearly distinguishable.

Saul M. Kilstein
Director

SMK:Kh

c. Nicholas R. Scalera, Director
Division of Youth and Family Services

Marion E. Reitz, Director
Division of Family Development

Robert Nicholas, Director
Division of Developmental Disabilities