



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN
Governor

WILLIAM WALDMAN
Commissioner

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 97-20

DATE: November 14, 1997

TO: County Welfare Agency Directors

SUBJECT: Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries Outreach

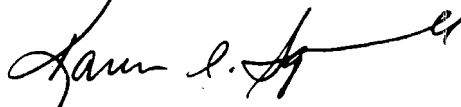
This is to advise that county welfare agencies (CWAs) may receive inquiries as a result of a recent outreach by the Health Care Financing Administration to inform individuals of programs that will help them meet their medical expenses. The current mailing was sent to new Medicare beneficiaries who appear to meet the income criteria of the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) program, who do not receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and have no one else paying their Medicare premiums. In New Jersey 6,566 potential QMBs were targeted to receive this outreach letter.

The QMB eligibility criteria, with the exception of the Medicare Part A enrollment requirement, is identical to that under New Jersey Care...Special Medicaid Programs. For Medicaid purposes, there is no distinction between the programs.

Therefore, there is no special case processing required. Persons contacting the CWA expressing interest in QMB coverage should be processed the same as any aged, blind, or disabled applicant for New Jersey Care. Please advise all agency staff, including telephone operators, that those inquiring about QMB coverage should be processed for possible New Jersey Care...Special Medicaid Programs eligibility.

Any questions concerning this communication should be referred to the field service staff assigned to your county.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen I. Squarrell", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Karen I. Squarrell
Acting Director

KIS:G

c: Len Fishman, Commissioner
Susan C. Reinhard, Ph.D., Deputy Commissioner
Department of Health and Senior Services

Karen Highsmith, Director
Division of Family Development

Michele Guhl, Deputy Commissioner
Division of Youth and Family Services