



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES
P.O. Box 712
Trenton, NJ 08625-0712

JAMES E. MCGREEVEY
Governor

JAMES W. SMITH, JR.
Acting Commissioner

DEBORAH C. BRADLEY
Acting Director
Telephone 1-800-356-1561

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 02-06 DATE: January 24, 2002

TO: County Welfare Agency Directors
Institutional Services Section Area Supervisors

SUBJECT: New Jersey Care... Special Medicaid Programs
Cases Becoming Ineligible as a Result of Social Security
Benefit COLA Increase

This is to advise of a special continuation of eligibility for aged, blind, and disabled individuals currently eligible for New Jersey Care... Special Medicaid Programs who would otherwise lose eligibility for Medicaid as a result of the January 1, 2002 cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to Title II benefits. The continuation of eligibility for these cases will alleviate the problem of cases becoming temporarily ineligible for the period between the Social Security cost-of-living increase and the issuance of the new federal poverty guidelines.

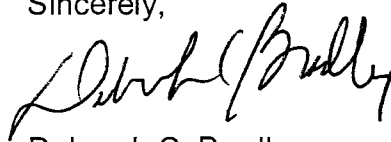
The county boards of social services (CBOSS) are directed to continue New Jersey Care eligibility for any aged, blind, or disabled New Jersey Care recipient who would otherwise lose eligibility solely as a result of the January 1 increase in Social Security benefits. This special continuation of eligibility shall terminate when the Division provides the CBOSSs with the new income standards based upon the federal poverty guidelines for 2002. Those figures are expected to be available in late February or early March.

Any such case that would become ineligible for reasons other than the Social Security cost-of-living adjustment shall be terminated in accordance with existing practice.

CBOSSs must maintain a log of all cases that are continued as a result of this Communication. This log must be reviewed upon the promulgation of the new income standards and ongoing income eligibility determined for each case.

Questions regarding this Communication should be referred to the field staff assigned to your county.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah C. Bradley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Deborah" and last name "Bradley" clearly distinguishable.

Deborah C. Bradley
Acting Director

DCB:Hh

c: Clifton R. Lacy, M.D., Commissioner-Designate
William Conroy, Deputy Commissioner
Department of Health and Senior Services

David Heins, Director
Division of Family Development

Charles Venti, Director
Division of Youth and Family Services