

December 22, 2016

Kimberly Xavier
Planning, Policy & Quality Unit
Division of Medicaid & Medical Assistance
1901 N. DuPont Hwy.
P.O. Box 906
New Castle, DE 19720-0906

RE: DMMA Proposed Delaware Healthy Children Program Premiums Regulation [20 DE Reg. 416 (December 1, 2016)]

Dear Ms. Xavier:

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed the Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA) proposal to amend the Title XXI Delaware Healthy Children Program State Plan and the Division of Social Services Manual (DSSM) regarding Cost Sharing and Payment, specifically, Premium Requirements for CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program). Council **endorses** the amendment since the proposed changes benefit families and are being prompted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

The proposed standards uniformly benefit families since they raise the thresholds which trigger the premium requirement. For example, the \$15/month premium previously applied to families with countable income at or above 143% of the Federal Poverty Level. That threshold has been raised to families with countable income at or above 177% of the Federal Poverty level. At 418.

Thank you for your consideration of our endorsement of the proposed regulations. Please contact me or Wendy Strauss at the GACEC office if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Dafne A. Carnright
Chairperson

DAC:kpc