

TO: Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors, Long Term Home Health Care Program Coordinators, Care At Home I/II Coordinators

FROM: Mark Kissinger, Deputy Commissioner
Office of Long Term Care

SUBJECT: Long Term Home Health Care Program (LTHHCP) and Care At Home I/II (CAH) Extension

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT PERSON: Office of Long Term Care
Long Term Home Health Care Program
Diane Jones 518-474-6580; drj01@health.state.ny.us

Care At Home I/II
Liz Morales 518-486-6562; eam04@health.state.ny.us

The purpose of this GIS is to advise LDSS staff that the State has obtained a second extension from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to continue operating the current Care At Home (CAH) I/II and Long Term Home Health Care Program (LTHHCP) 1915(c) home and community based Medicaid waivers through April 15, 2009.

Resolving the use of post eligibility spousal impoverishment rules remains a critical concern for CMS in order to approve the waiver renewal application for the LTHHCP waiver.

District staff should continue to accept and process applications for enrollment in the LTHHCP and the CAH I/II waivers using the current eligibility criteria for each program.

Care At Home I/II:

To be eligible for CAH I/II enrollment, the child must:

- Be ineligible for Medicaid due to parents' excess income and/or resources;
- Be Medicaid eligible when parents' income and/or resources are not counted;
- Be under the age of 18;
- Have an institutional stay of 30 consecutive days;
- Be determined physically disabled based on SSI criteria;
- Require a skilled nursing facility or hospital level of care; and
- Be able to be cared for at home safely.

Long Term Home Health Care Program:

District staff should advise individuals applying for LTHHCP and individuals currently enrolled in the LTHHCP for whom current post eligibility spousal impoverishment rules were used to determine Medicaid eligibility, of the potential discontinuance of this methodology in the near future.

WGIUPD

GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

03/24/09

DIVISION: Office of Long Term Care

PAGE 2

GIS 09 OLTC/001

DOH continues to work with CMS on the LTHHCP and CAH I/II waiver renewal applications. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Diane Jones (LTHHCP) or Liz Morales (CAH) at the telephone numbers listed above. We will advise the LDSS staff of any further changes as they arise.