

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-01-16  
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850

**Center for Medicaid and State Operations, Family and Children's Health Programs Group**

April 3, 2009

Ms. Robin Arnold-Williams  
Secretary  
Department of Social and Health Services  
P.O. Box 45010  
Olympia, WA 98504-5010

Dear Ms. Arnold-Williams:

We are pleased to inform you that Washington's 11<sup>th</sup> State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) State plan amendment (SPA) submitted on April 22, 2008, with additional information submitted on July 23, 2008, September 19, 2008, November 13, 2008 and February 23, 2009 has been approved.

This SPA permits Washington to expand the income eligibility level for Washington's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) from the current family net income eligibility level of 250 percent of the Federal poverty level (FPL) up to and including 300 percent of the FPL. This approval also permits Washington to decrease the cost sharing for children above 200 percent up to and including 250 percent of the FPL and implement cost sharing for the new category of eligible children, with income above 250 percent up to and including 300 percent of the FPL. This amendment has a retroactive effective date of January 1, 2009.

Your title XXI project officer is Mr. Jeffrey Silverman. He is available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other SCHIP-related issues. Mr. Silverman's contact information is as follows:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
Center for Medicaid and State Operations  
Mail Stop S2-01-16  
7500 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850  
Telephone: (410) 786-8679  
Facsimile: (410) 786-5882  
E-mail: [jeffrey.silverman@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:jeffrey.silverman@cms.hhs.gov)

Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Mr. Silverman and to Ms. Barbara Richards, Acting Associate Regional Administrator in our Seattle Regional Office. Ms. Richards' address is:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health  
Mail Stop RX-43  
2201 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98121

If you have additional questions, please contact Ms. Dianne Heffron, Acting Director, Family and Children's Health Programs Group, Center for Medicaid and State Operations, at (410) 786-5647.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

/s/

Charlene Frizzera  
Acting Administrator

cc:

Barbara Richards, Acting ARA, Region X