



WEEKLY UPDATE - FEBRUARY 4, 2010

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INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

DCF CONTACTS FOR REGIONS WORKING WITH HOSPITALS- HAITIANS (With Attachment)

Attached is a list of DCF staff, by region, which are the contacts for hospitals to assist with Haitian immigrants while they are in the hospital and to assist with the patient's discharge.

Here is some additional information that might be of interest to you:

As you probably heard, US citizens in Haiti have been returning to the US as repatriated Americans along with Haitian national family members. The repatriated Americans are American citizens. Their family members appear to be given "humanitarian parole" status, which qualifies them as Haitian entrants and thus in a legal alien status that meets the criteria for full Medicaid eligibility based on information provided by CMS. In addition, some medical evacuees from USS Comfort ship have come to Florida hospitals as the

ship did not have the capacity to care for the high volume of persons in need of intensive medical care. Once USS Comfort ship staff performed the surgery and dealt with the immediate emergency, the patients were being sent elsewhere. It is my understanding from the DCF refugee coordinator, that these medical evacuees would likely be given humanitarian parole status and therefore could qualify for refugee medical assistance. The humanitarian parole status qualifies the person as a Haitian entrant and gives them a refugee status which meets the alien status requirement for Medicaid. Some Haitian immigrants were given B2 Visas, a temporary visitor Visa which is not a status that qualifies the person for full Medicaid benefits. If they apply for EMA, DCF will have to determine if they meet the residence criteria for EMA under Florida Medicaid.

DCF pulled teams together to work with hospitals to coordinate the discharge of patients and to assist with the families of the patients who are here. Many have no income, assets or home. The attached is the list of DCF contact staff in each region for this purpose.

FRS CONFERENCE CALL NOTES (With Attachment)

The Family Resource Specialist Conference Call Notes from January 27, 2010 are attached for your information.

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY OFFERS DISABILITY STUDIES PROGRAM

Georgetown University, School of Continuing Education in collaboration with the Center for Child and Human Development offers a Masters Degree and Advanced Certificate Program in Disability Studies. The program which has three tracks (Developmental Disabilities, Early Intervention, and Mental Health System of Care for Children and Youth) begins September, 2010

The Disability Studies program offers you the resources and knowledge you need to build a career collaborating with individuals with disabilities and special health care needs and their families helping them meet their goals and become active participants in the community.

The program will prepare you to be a leader advocating for individuals with disability, providing community based services, developing policy, and participating in scholarship in the area of disability.

These three tracks build on the strengths of the existing work being done at GUCCHD and the Georgetown University community at-large. The GUCCHD was established over four decades ago to improve the quality of life for all individuals with disabilities and special health care needs and their families. The Center is founded on an interdisciplinary approach to service, training, research, community outreach, technical assistance, and public policy. The Center brings to bear its unique capacity on critical social issues most notably disability, poverty, homelessness, and social injustice by influencing local, national, and international programs and policy.

Unique to the Disability Studies program will be an on-line and classroom based program of study. All students will be required to meet as cohort groups at Georgetown University for specified amounts of time during each course. Ongoing instruction, however, will be delivered through an on-line platform. This model offers greater flexibility building a vibrant, diverse community of learners.

The Center for Child and Human Development is excited to be collaborating with the School of Continuing Studies, providing a rich program of study.

For more information on the Disability Studies Program please go to <http://www12.georgetown.edu/scs/departments/32/master-of-professional-studies-in-disability-studies>

ASHA GUIDELINES FOR USE OF SLP ASSISTANTS

The following is a link to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Frequently Asked Questions regarding use of Speech Language Pathology Assistants.

http://www.asha.org/certification/faq_slpasst.htm

APR PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW (With Attachment)

ESSO submitted its FFY 2008 Annual Performance Report (APR) on February 1, 2010. The APR contains detailed reporting of progress the state has made toward meeting established indicator targets contained in the Part C State Performance Plan (SPP). Attached is a performance overview of all indicators that includes the actual target data achieved for FFY 2008, as well as the indicator targets established for FFY 2008 in the SPP. Also included, for comparison purposes, is the actual target data for FFY 2007. When the APR and revised SPP are posted on our website, we will announce it through the Weekly Memo.

NECTAC NEWS

For the current issue of NECTAC eNotes go to <http://www.nectac.org/enotes/enotes.asp>

UPCOMING TRAININGS/MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

23rd ANNUAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH & POLICY CONFERENCE

The 23rd Annual Children's Mental Health Research & Policy Conference will be held March 7-10, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency in Tampa, Florida. Act before February 5 to take advantage of early registration and discounted hotel rates.

Visit <http://rtckids.fmhi.usf.edu/cmhconference/e-news/23rdConfReminder.html> for more information.

AUDITORY-VERBAL THERAPY WORKSHOP (With Two Attachments)

Please see the attached flyer and registration form regarding an upcoming workshop called "A Game Plan for Becoming a Winning Coach in Listening and Spoken Language Practice: A one day workshop on Auditory-Verbal Therapy for Parents and Professionals" on Saturday, February 20, 2010 at Hillsborough Community College in Tampa.