



WEEKLY UPDATE – MAY 20, 2010

IN THIS MEMO:

KATHY REESE RETIRES FROM CMS

ACTION NEEDED

1. 2010-2011 LINE ITEM BUDGET FORMAT

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

2. SERVICE COORDINATOR CONFERENCE CALL NOTES
3. AHCA PUBLIC MEETINGS
4. NECTAC NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS/TRAININGS

5. SPECIAL EDUCATION LAW AND ADVOCACY WORKSHOP
6. SIBLING WORKSHOP

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT, KATHY

It is with mixed emotions that we are announcing the retirement of Kathy Reese.

Kathy has devoted 33 years to serving Florida's children and families in a variety of capacities. She began working with ESSO in 1998 and has contributed in countless ways to the world of Early Steps. Almost every local Early Steps has had Kathy as their contract manager, technical assistance liaison, program manager, etc. for a period of time during the last 12 years. Both the guidance and knowledge Kathy has shared with everyone she has worked with has been invaluable and is greatly appreciated.

Although we will all miss Kathy, she has worked hard in her career and has earned the opportunity to enjoy more time with her family and grandchildren.

Please join us in wishing Kathy all the best in her retirement.

ACTION NEEDED

FY 2010-11 EARLY STEPS LINE ITEM BUDGET FORMAT (With 1 Attachment)

By now, each LES has received the revised information on the total allocation amounts for the upcoming 2010-11 fiscal year. For our records, we need your response by sending the line item budget through e-mail to Andrew.Johnson@doh.state.fl.us, your assigned contract manager and program manager **no later than COB next Tuesday, May 25, 2010.**

The line item budget format for 2010-11 is attached and is the only format that will be accepted. Please note the added instructions in red in the Budget Format Instructions tab regarding indirect type costs, and that DOH Finance and Accounting is no longer allowing the calculation of the Cash Reserves for Operating Costs. Therefore, the information for this portion of the line item budget has been removed.

We are aware that each LES has an abundance of information for creating the budget breakdown to justify their allocations. However, there are many other critical contractual deadlines after this one that must be met in order for the LES contracts/amendments to be fully executed and ready to go on July 1. The section that is most important to be accurate and complete is the Service Coordinator Salary and Benefits to enable us to capture the Service Coordination deduction from the Service Coordination Worksheet tab for the contract. So, do the best you can for now and you can refine your budget later if need be. Your prompt response is appreciated.

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

SERVICE COORDINATOR WORKGROUP CONFERENCE CALL NOTES (With Attachment)

The Notes from the last Service Coordinator Conference Call are attached.

FLORIDA AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS ON MEDICAID MANAGED CARE PILOT PROGRAM

The Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) will hold a series of public meetings to solicit public input on the extension of Florida's 1115 Research and Demonstration Waiver (Managed Care Pilot). The Florida Managed Care Pilot is a program in Baker, Broward, Clay,

Duval and Nassau Counties that seeks to improve the services provided to Medicaid recipients through mandatory participation in managed care plans for specific populations. The program began in 2005, and as of May 1, 2010, 260,394 Floridians are enrolled in the Florida Managed Care Pilot.

During the recent legislative session, the Florida Legislature passed language that authorized the Agency to submit an extension request to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Managed Care Pilot. The extension request will ask CMS to allow Florida to continue the Waiver program until 2014. Currently, the program is set to expire on June 30, 2011.

“It is important that everyone has the opportunity to understand what our agency has been asked to do,” said Secretary Thomas W. Arnold. “We encourage stakeholders to attend, learn more and offer input about the Managed Care Pilot and its next steps.”

The agenda for each public meeting will include a presentation of legislation passed during the 2010 Florida Legislative Session impacting Florida’s Managed Care Pilot, an overview of the program as it currently exists and a description of the proposed extension request. The Agency will then take public comment.

The Florida Managed Care Pilot Extension Request meetings will take place:

Friday, May 21, 2010
1:00 p.m.
Agency for Health Care Administration Headquarters
2727 Mahan Drive, Building 3, Conference Room A
Tallahassee

Tuesday, June 8, 2010
1:00 p.m.
Duval County

Wednesday, June 9, 2010
10:00 a.m.
Broward County

Dates, times and locations for meetings in Baker, Broward, Clay, Duval and Nassau Counties will be posted on the Agency’s Web site, AHCA.MyFlorida.com, under Public Meeting Notices and in the Florida Administrative Weekly as soon as they are available.

The Agency will also add the Florida Managed Care Pilot Extension Request to the agendas of the Medicaid Medical Care Advisory Committee meeting on May 18, 2010, the Low Income Pool Council meeting on May 24, 2010, and the Medicaid Technical Advisory Panel meeting on June 2, 2010. If Floridians would like to submit comments, but cannot attend one of the meetings, they may submit them to the Agency via e-mail at MedicaidReform@ahca.myflorida.com.

NECTAC NEWS

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

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS/TRAININGS

SPECIAL EDUCATION LAW AND ADVOCACY WORKSHOP (With 1 Attachment)

Learn how to be a strong advocate for children with disabilities in the public school system at four **free** workshops scheduled for this August.

SIBLING WORKSHOP COMES TO ORLANDO (With 1 Attachment)

What: A fun workshop just for siblings (ages 8-13) who have brothers and sisters with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. Sibshops is a great opportunity to meet with other siblings in a relaxed, recreational setting.

When: Wednesday, June 16, 2010

10:00 am ~ 2:00 pm

Where: Disney's Coronado Springs Resort

1000 West Buena Vista Drive

Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

Cost: FREE (registration is required)

CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE!

UCF Center for Autism and Related Disabilities

Contact: Laurie 407-737-2566 or 888-558-1908