



## WEEKLY UPDATE – DECEMBER 12, 2008

### *ACTIONS NEEDED*

#### FAMILY SURVEY RESULTS FLYER

A flyer has been developed primarily for families to show the results of the 2008 Family Survey process. **Please distribute this within your community, as appropriate.** If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Purvis at [Kelly\\_Purvis@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Kelly_Purvis@doh.state.fl.us) or (850) 245-4444 ext. 3019.

### *INFORMATION AND RESOURCES*

#### CONTRACT AMENDMENTS

ESSO is still trying to identify as much cash as possible to put in contract amendments as a result of the Surplus/Deficit reporting. One Local Early Steps has agreed to a reduction in their contract to provide a little help and we are negotiating with the Department of Health to waive an indirect cost requirement on our TANF funds. It is unknown exactly when we will have these two negotiations complete. Please bear with us.

#### CORRECTION TO "BILLING PRACTICES" POWERPOINT FROM 2008 CMS BUSINESS MEETING

A correction was made to the "Billing Practice" PowerPoint that was presented at the 2008 CMS Business Meeting in July. Slide #3 in the original version stated that IPDEI's must be recommended by a licensed professional. The new slide #3 clarifies that this requirement only applies to Medicaid recipients. The revised version is at [http://www.cms-kids.com/earlysteps/training/business\\_mtg\\_2008.html](http://www.cms-kids.com/earlysteps/training/business_mtg_2008.html). The revised version with trainer's notes will be shared with Training Coordinators.

## SHINE IMPROVES!

Last April, concern was raised over the number of children who were referred with permanent hearing loss as it appeared that about half of them were not in the data system or had been identified as lost to follow up.

Data was collected on all children who were known to have been referred for permanent hearing loss between May and November, 2008.

A total of **226** children with permanent hearing loss were known to be referred to LES.

Of that number, **36 (16%)** were not receiving services. **This is much improved from 50%!**

Following are the reasons (codes) for the 36 not receiving services:

Unable to contact 16 (44%) 7% of total 226 children

Child health reasons 3 (8%)

Moved 1 (3%)

Closed as transfer in one center but data system indicated child never opened at another center 2 (5.5%)

Immediate transition 2 (5.5%)

Deceased 1 (2.8%)

Parents declined 12 (33%) 5% of total 226 children 7 of the 12 had hearing loss in only 1 ear

**Congratulations** to everyone who works with these families and contributed to this improvement!

If you have any questions please contact [Karen\\_Anderson@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Karen_Anderson@doh.state.fl.us)

## A CHANGE IN THE EI PROVIDER ENROLLMENT APPLICATION PROCESS

Beginning January 1, 2009, the completed Medicaid application package should be submitted directly to the Medicaid fiscal agent, EDS. Providers can choose to submit the application package online at [www.mymedicaid-florida.com](http://www.mymedicaid-florida.com) or mail a paper application to the following address:

Florida Medicaid Provider Enrollment  
P.O. Box 7070  
Tallahassee, FL 32314-7070

## RESIGNATION OF SAMANTHA DELLOSO

As of 12/11/2008, Samantha Dellosso will no longer be working for the Agency of Healthcare Administration (AHCA). She and her family are relocating to Western Pennsylvania. AHCA has already advertised for her position and is in the process of filling it. Hopefully, the vacancy will be filled quickly. In the interim, Deb Vine is our Medicaid contact. All Medicaid questions and issues will continue to be directed to Wilma Jackson, the Early Steps Medicaid liaison, and she will forward the information to Ms. Vine.

## NECTAC NEWS

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

# *UPCOMING MEETINGS, TRAININGS AND CONFERENCES*

## **NEXT FRS CONFERENCE CALL**

The next monthly FRS Conference Call will be on Monday, December 16, 2008, 10:00 - 11:30. The phone number is 1-888-808-6959 and the conference code is 2452268.