Ohio | Department of Job and Family Services

Ted Strickland, Governor
Douglas E. Lumpkin, Director

March 6, 2009

TO: Interested Stakeholders

FROM: John R. Corlett, Medicaid Director

SUBJECT: Reinstatement of Medicaid for Public Institution Recipients (RoMPIR) Project

The Reinstatement of Medicaid for Public Institution Recipients (RoMPIR) Project is nearing implementation. This project was initiated at the request of Governor Ted Strickland. Through the hard work and collaboration of the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services, the Ohio Department of Mental Health, the Department of Rehabilitations and Corrections, and the Department of Youth Services many individuals can have Medicaid enrollment reinstated upon release from a public institution. This applies to those who are enrolled on Medicaid at the time they enter the facility. By reinstating their Medicaid coverage with their release, we can eliminate the gap in health care coverage and give them the support they need to reestablish themselves.

1. **Between NOW and Mid May**. The first part of the Project was completed March 2nd. This aspect implemented programming in the state's social services eligibility system (CRIS-e). The programming enables the County Department of Job and Family Services (CDJFS) staff to expeditiously issue a temporary (two month) Medicaid card to an individual presenting appropriate documentation to the CDJFS. In addition, the enabling Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rule has been filed. OAC Rule 5101:1-37-20 was filed as an emergency rule to coincide with the March 2nd CRIS-e implementation. The permanent rule will follow shortly thereafter. Because the rule is necessary to authorize the program, only public institution recipients that enter a facility **on or after** March 2nd can participate in this program.

   Until the web application described below is in place, a person that entered the public institution after March 2nd and leaves prior to mid-May can get Medicaid coverage by presenting discharge documentation to their local CDJFS. Documentation can be a discharge forms on the agency's letterhead, or other documentation acceptable to the CDJFS.

2. **Mid May implementation of the secure web application.** Mid-May is the target date for implementation of a secure web application for institution staff to notify CDJFS' when an individual on Medicaid enters a public institution and when they are released.
   - The public institution staff enters identifying information into the application. If information matches a current Medicaid eligible, a match ID is logged and an e-mail is sent to the CDJFS to suspend eligibility. The public institution staff is informed if there is a match.
   - Upon release, the public institution staff enters identifying information. If the release information matches a corresponding record in the log, the system application sends an e-mail to the CDJFS to issue a Medicaid card.

In addition to the Information Technology aspect, there are a few other items that need to be completed prior to closing out this Project.

- Interagency Agreements must be completed prior to providing public institution staff access to the web application, since designated staff will be accessing Protected Health Information.

- Training of CDJFS and public institution staff must be completed. CDJFS staff was trained on February 26th to ensure they are aware of how the CRIS-e aspect of this program will work. Training of public institution staff cannot occur until each state agency is trained in the use of the web application. State agencies will be cascading the training within each of their systems.

There are a couple of things worth noting of a regulatory and statutory nature. The new web application is designed to be compliant with HIPAA and HB648. And finally, we are well ahead of the timeline required to begin implementation by HB 215 in compliance with 5111.0119.

Again, thanks to those throughout the various agencies who have worked to make this happen, and to Amy McGee in the Governor's Office for her leadership.