



Arkansas Department Of Health and Human Services

Division of Medical Services



P.O. Box 1437, Slot S295
Little Rock, AR 72203-1437

Fax: 501-682-2480

TDD: 501-682-6789 & 1-877-708-8191

Internet Website: www.medicaid.state.ar.us

OFFICIAL NOTICE

DMS-2005-RC-1

TO: Health Care Provider – Children's Services Respite Care

DATE: October 26, 2005

SUBJECT: Children's Services Respite Care Termination

The Division of Medical Services (DMS) and the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) have withdrawn the applications for renewal of 1915(c) waiver 0365, Respite for Children with MR/DD and waiver 0364, Respite for Children with Physical Disabilities. The waivers have an expiration date of October 31, 2005 and the Respite program will be terminated on the same date.

The current waiver participants will be served in an alternative DDS program funded by Title V for Children with Special Health Care Needs. DMS and DDS have complied with federal requirements for voluntary termination of the waiver (State Medicaid Manual 4446.A.) and notified participants in accordance with 42 CFR 431.210. DDS sent written notification of termination of services under the waivers to each participant 30 days before terminating waiver services. The notification letter explained the transition to the Title V program and the continuation of respite services. A copy of the letter sent to participants is attached for your information.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding this change please contact Nancy Holder, DDS Program Administrator, at (501) 682-1464 or Nancy.Holder@arkansas.gov.

Thank you for your participation in the Arkansas Medicaid Program.

Roy Jeffus, Director

If you need this material in an alternative format, such as large print, please contact our Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at (501) 682-6789 and 1-877-708-8191. Both telephone numbers are voice and TDD.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact the EDS Provider Assistance Center at In-State WATS 1-800-457-4454, or locally and Out-of-State at (501) 376-2211.

Arkansas Medicaid provider manuals, official notices and remittance advice (RA) messages are available for downloading from the Arkansas Medicaid website: www.medicaid.state.ar.us.



**Arkansas Department
of Health and Human Services**
Division of Developmental Disabilities Services
CHILDREN'S SERVICES



P.O. Box 1437, Slot S-380 Little Rock, AR 72203-1437 • 501-682-2277 • Fax: 501-682-8247 • TDD: 501-682-1332

September 23, 2005

Parent Name
Address
City, State Zip

RE: Family and Friends Respite Waiver for Mentally Retarded/Developmentally Delayed
And Family and Friends Respite Waiver for Physically Disabled

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is being written to inform you about upcoming changes involving the Family and Friends Respite Waivers. All Medicaid waivers require federal approval and are of limited duration. The current Respite Waiver expires October 31, 2005. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) and Division of Medical Services (DMS) have worked closely with our Federal partners, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), over the past several months on the renewal applications for these waivers. Federal waiver programs have changed quite dramatically since the original Respite Waivers were written three years ago, and CMS required many changes to our program. When it became apparent that the existing waiver program is no longer viable CMS, DDS, and DMS mutually decided that we should withdraw the waiver renewal application. We hope to submit a different waiver application in the future.

While services under the Respite waiver will terminate October 31, 2005 and your child's Respite Waiver case will close on that date, **your child will not lose his/her respite benefits.** DDS plans to transition all children and youth that are currently being served on the Respite Waiver to continue to receive respite benefits through a respite program funded by the Title V Children with Special Health Care Needs program. There will be a process in place for continued respite services for your child by November 1, 2005. An application from you is not required. You will be contacted by mail by October 21, 2005 with specific information about the respite program that will serve your child. Please understand that this action pertains only to the Respite waiver service and does not otherwise affect your child's Medicaid eligibility.

Please see the next page for your right to appeal this decision. You may contact our office if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Nancy Holder, Program Administrator
DDS Children's Services