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MaineCare Services  
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March 4, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

As you are aware, the Department has been working with the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) on a Non-Emergency Transportation (NEMT) waiver after CMS notified us that various aspects of our reimbursement methodology are not compliant with federal regulations. Therefore, we have been analyzing other potential options for NEMT to determine the model that conforms with federal requirements, ensures timely access to transportation services, is cost-effective and efficient, and is also sustainable with minimal disruption to our current service delivery system. After much discussion with our federal partners, it became clear to us that to achieve these goals, a Risk-Based Prepaid Ambulatory Health Plan (PAHP) was the best option.

This means that we will be transitioning toward making capitated payments to an organization that will function like a managed care organization for transportation. Such an approach allows the broker more flexibility than the Department has in utilizing all modes of transportation available (bus passes, taxi, etc.). This will assure timely access to medically necessary services for our members which is a key component of federal compliance. This model will also allow the continued involvement of volunteer, family and friend drivers, which we know is very important to our members. We believe this model will ultimately be the most efficient and will allow us to continue the important NEMT services our members need for years to come.

We will keep you updated on the progress as these plans develop. As timing and details become more firm, we anticipate providing you the opportunity to learn more and provide feedback on this initiative.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Michelle Probert at 287-2641 or [michelle.probert@maine.gov](mailto:michelle.probert@maine.gov) with the Office of MaineCare Services who will be leading this effort. We appreciate the work you do and thank you for your commitment to our members.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stefanie Nadeau, Acting Director  
Office of MaineCare Services