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To: Interested Parties

From: Jim Martin, Director, Office of Child and Family Services

Stefanie Nadeau, Director, Office of MaineCare Services

Re: Section 32, Waiver Services for Children with Intellectual Disabilities or Pervasive Developmental Disorders.

This is an update regarding the status of Section 32 of the MaineCare Benefits Manual. The Department of Health and Human Services is very appreciative of the stakeholder input and involvement that guided the development of this service over the past several years. In March 2014, after a series of requests for additional information and other technical assistance questions, CMS determined that some of the services proposed in the waiver program could be covered under the Medicaid State Plan (also known as Maine Care), instead of through a separate waiver.

The Department has spent considerable time reviewing the waiver program and its current array of services. We've compared them to the other services available through the MaineCare system. The Department is confident that the services within the waiver program can be provided through other sections of policy.

The Department has been actively reviewing all behavioral health services for children and we are committed to making improvements to those areas. Additionally, we recognize the need to increase the efficacy of in-home supports, as well as the need to improve the structure of our residential supports.

The recent guidance given by CMS and the ability to provide all of the services through MaineCare policies, has led us to determine that we do not need to continue this waiver program. There is no need for immediate remediation as there are no individuals currently enrolled in this program

As allowable, Early and Periodic, Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment Services (EPSDT) will be invoked as necessary, and transportation will continue to be covered under MaineCare. Residential treatment services, in-home supports, respite, environmental modifications, and outpatient services can be coordinated through the Department as appropriate.

As of March 27, 2015, the Department has terminated the Section 32 waiver program. We look forward to working with you on the continuous improvement of services for children and families in Maine.