



State of New Jersey

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES**

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
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MEDICAID COMMUNICATION 89-12

Date: April 17, 1989

TO: County Welfare Agency/Board of Social Services' Directors

SUBJECT: Home Care Expansion Program (HCEP)

The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services is pleased to announce the implementation of the Home Care Expansion Program (HCEP) effective May 1, 1989. This program, created by the Home Care Expansion Act (P.L.92,1988), is funded from the Casino Revenue Fund. The intent of the program is to offer home care services to the elderly and disabled who are at risk of institutionalization and whose income or resources exceed the financial requirements for Medicaid or other Community Care Programs.

The Home Care Expansion Program will be available state-wide. It is anticipated that present funding will allow HCEP to serve approximately 600 persons at any one time.

The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services is be responsible for the administration of the Home Care Expansion Program. There will be no direct involvement of Medicaid District Offices nor County Welfare Agencies/Boards of Social Services in this program. The Bureau of Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) will determine financial eligibility for enrollment in HCEP. Applications for HCEP may be obtained by calling the PAAD toll-free telephone number, 1-800-792-9745.

To be eligible for HCEP, an individual 65 or **over** must:

- be in need long-term care services which are medically necessary to avoid or delay institutionalization;

and

- be eligible for Medicare or have other health care insurance which includes hospital and physician coverage;

and

- have an annual income of less than \$18,000 if single, or if married, less than \$21,000 in combination with that of his/her spouse. Resources must be less than \$15,000 for single or married.

To be eligible for the HCEP, an individual **under 65** must **also**:

- be receiving Social Security disability;

or

- be determined disabled by the Social Security Administration or the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, Disability Review Section.

Only the following seven services are provided under HCEP:

- Case management;
- Home Health;
- Homemaker;
- Medical Day Care;
- Social Day Care;
- Non-emergency medical transportation; and
- Respite care (at home or in a nursing home).

There is no payment for services provided before enrollment in the program.

HCEP case managers are nurses or social workers employed in a health or social service agency in each county. Case managers are responsible for assessing need for care, planning, locating and monitoring services to meet the individual needs of persons served, as well as monitoring the cost of the service package. The cost of care for each individual is limited to a percentage of the cost of nursing home care.

HCEP recipients may be required to share in the cost of their care. The amount of this cost share is determined by the individual's income, the cost of the care, and the additional medical or remedial care received. Non-payment of this cost-share will result in termination from the program.

Inquiries about the program should be directed to this Division's Office of Home Care Programs at (609)588-2620.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas M. Russo, Director
Division of Medical Assistance
and Health Services

TMR:Kw

cc: Marion Reitz, Director
Division of Public Welfare

William Waldman, Director
Division of Youth and Family Services

Norma Krajczar, Executive Director
Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Case Management Sites