NAME BRIDGES MEDICAID AND EDUCATION TO PROMOTE INTEGRITY IN SCHOOL BASED HEALTH SERVICES.

Save the Date: NAME 2009 Annual Conference
San Diego, CA
October 13, 2009 – NAME Academy & NEW Innovation for Experienced Members
October 14 – 16, 2009 – Annual Conference
More information to follow soon!

In With the New and Out with the Old

The month of January, beginning with the excitement of the inauguration of Barack Obama, has been a promising time for SBS Medicaid in that the Medicaid moratorium is included in the Stimulus Package being proposed by the new President. This is a long process, however, the final version will not be known until the House & Senate agree on the contents. Currently, the House version extends the moratorium to June 30, 2009. The Senate version does not include any language about the moratorium. The goal will be to have the Conference Committee, when formed, include the moratorium in the final bill that the President will sign.

Regarding the ever confusing Parental Consent issue - there are conflicting messages between OSEP & CMS regarding responsibility and need for obtaining consent. This too is an issue that we hope the new administration will be able to clarify (eliminate?) for us.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Bill of 2009

Congress will be considering the American Recovery and Reinvestment Bill of 2009 in the next few weeks. This Bill covers many things focusing on stimulating and sustaining the economy. Please note that the original deadline of the Medicare and Medicaid moratorium was to be April 1, 2009. This Bill includes extending the moratorium for Medicare and Medicaid regulations. To see the entire Bill, click here.

Hints and Glimpses, 1.2009

“Medicaid rolls are surging, by unprecedented rates in some states, as the recession tightens its grip on the economy and Americans lose their employer-sponsored health coverage along with their jobs.”

Hints and Glimpses, 1.2009 continued

“...the two-year stimulus plan would provide up to $1,000 per year in tax relief for most families, dramatically increase funding for alternative energy production, and direct more than $300 billion in aid to states to help rebuild schools, provide health care to the poor and reconstruct highways and bridges.”

“Auditors also examined eight districts in northeastern New York and found weak internal controls and policies prevented the districts from claiming at least $3.1 million in Medicaid reimbursable expenses and consequently losing out on $1.54 million in revenue for the districts and state to share.”

“That could mean that money once pulled from the general fund to pay for federally mandated, but underfunded, special education services could now be used for other programs.”
http://www.pressdemocrat.com/article/20090129/NEWS/901290392

“Education Secretary Arne Duncan said the economy won’t improve without the billions of dollars for schools in President Obama’s recovery plan.”

“Members of the special education department of the Kodiak Island Borough School District said at Saturday’s school budget presentation that the department needs more federal and state funding to meet mandated requirements in special education.”
http://www.kodiakdailymirror.com/?pid=19&id=7190

“Proponents of overhauling America’s health care system expressed shock today that former senator Thomas A. Daschle (D-S.D.) will not be in position to shepherd President Obama’s reform agenda through Congress, saying the pressure now rests on the White House to reinvigorate the effort.”
http://voices.washingtonpost.com/44/2009/02/03/stepping_down_daschle_sends_sh.html?wprss=44

New Yorker
http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2009/01/26/090126fa_fact_gawande