



**Georgia - Notice of New Family Planning Program
Planning for Healthy Babies (P4HB)
*Effective January 2011***

January 24, 2011

Dear Provider:

The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) recently announced that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid approved their application for a new family planning program: Planning for Healthy Babies (P4HB). This new program will offer family planning services to women who previously did not qualify for Medicaid benefits. P4HB begins in January 2011.

Attached is a copy of the DCH announcement regarding the program.

Beginning January 1, 2011, you may begin providing services to WellCare members who have become eligible under this new program. Your current Medicaid contract with WellCare allows you to see these new members as an in network provider.

We want to thank you for providing services to our new WellCare members under the P4HB program. With your help, we hope to provide healthier outcomes for these members and their babies. For questions regarding this notice, please contact your local WellCare Provider Relations representative or WellCare Provider Services at **866-231-1821**.

In addition, please visit www.dch.georgia.gov/p4hb or georgia.wellcare.com for more information.



DCH Launches New Family Planning Program

Friday, December 10, 2010

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ATLANTA— The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) is pleased to announce that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has approved its application for an 1115 Family Planning demonstration waiver, the Planning for Healthy BabiesSM (P4HB) program. The P4HB program will offer family planning services to women who previously did not qualify for Medicaid benefits. The program will begin in January 2011.

"The Medicaid Division is very excited to begin implementing the Planning for Healthy Babies program," said Dr. Jerry Dubberly, Chief of the Medicaid Division, DCH. "This program will positively impact Georgia families by improving the health and wellbeing of women and infants."

The P4HB program was designed to improve Georgia's very low birth weight (VLBW) and low birth weight (LBW) rates. It is the country's first 1115 Demonstration waiver to place particular focus on reducing LBW rates. According to 2007 birth data, the Kaiser Family Foundation ranked Georgia as 38th in the nation (out of 51 – DC was ranked equivalent to a state) in the number of LBW births.

Implementation of the P4HB program will impact Georgia's families by:

- Providing family planning-related services to eligible women who meet income requirements
- Increasing child spacing intervals through effective contraceptive use
- Reducing the number of LBW and VLBW births through access to prenatal planning, health education and vitamins
- Providing access to inter-pregnancy care (IPC) services to women with a previous VLBW infant

Women enrolled in P4HB who do not receive Medicaid are eligible for family planning services covered by the Georgia Medicaid program. In addition to family planning services, women who have delivered a VLBW (baby weighing less than 3 pounds, 5 ounces) on or after January 1, 2011, and do not receive Medicaid or are losing Medicaid coverage, are eligible for IPC services, which includes access to primary care, substance abuse services, a Resource Mother (care management) and more. Women who receive Medicaid and deliver a VLBW are only eligible for Resource Mother services.

This expanded eligibility allows women greater choices for family planning providers, including the ability to choose their delivering physician or prenatal care provider as their family planning provider.

The P4HB program covers family planning services for women ages 18 through 44 who meet monthly family income limits. In order to participate in the program, these women must also be:

- U.S. citizens or persons with qualified proof of citizenship
- Georgia residents
- Not pregnant
- Able to have a baby (have not had a tubal ligation or hysterectomy)

Applications for enrollment are available online at planning4healthybabies.org. If interested women are unable to apply online, applications may be picked up at their local public health department or Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) office.

For more information, visit dch.georgia.gov/p4hb or call 1-877-P4H-B101 or 1-877-744-2101.