

From: Dean, Jessie M. (HCA) <jessie.dean@hca.wa.gov>
Sent time: 02/27/2014 04:02:03
To: David Preston
Cc: Paradee, Tamarra (HCA) <tamarra.paradee@hca.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: DSHS Cancelled My Obamacare ~ Part II
Attachments: DSHS_nasty-gram.pdf

David –

Representative Cody forwarded your email below to the Health Care Authority (HCA), which is the state Medicaid agency. I am one of the HCA Eligibility Policy Representatives for King County.

We fully acknowledge that the February 4 letter you received was confusing and could have been worded more clearly to express its point that the recipient did not qualify to receive cash or health care coverage under the Housing and Essential Needs program for the months listed. Instead, you received the standard denial letter for that program. Our intent with that letter and the one before it was to make sure that certain people waiting for their Medicaid expansion coverage to start on January 1 would have the opportunity to apply for the Housing and Essential Needs program, which, unlike Medicaid expansion, could provide health care coverage before January 1 to incapacitated (but not disabled) adults.

To answer your second question, we do not plan to contact the recipients of that letter to notify them that they in fact have coverage. With all the work necessary to make Medicaid expansion a reality for hundreds of thousands while ensuring coverage for other Medicaid applicants and recipients, we simply do not have the resources to reach out to those who do in fact have Medicaid coverage. The letter did give its recipients both a toll-free number to ask questions and an explanation of their administrative hearing rights. Anyone who takes advantage of either resource will quickly find out that he or she has Washington Apple Health coverage.

On behalf of DSHS and HCA, I apologize that we cannot do more to address your concerns.

Jessie

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