



JEB BUSH, GOVERNOR

ALAN LEVINE, SECRETARY

October 25, 2004

Dear Medicaid Provider:

As you work with children through the Medicaid program, I know you want to do all you can to meet the needs of children with medically complex conditions or who need medical care over a long-term period.

If you are relying only on private duty nursing services for these patients, I hope you will consider Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Services, also known as PPEC services.

Florida has more than 20 PPECs specifically designed to provide high-level medical care in a non-residential pediatric center. They are staffed by registered nurses and other health professionals who are trained to work with three or more children requiring specialized medical care. The PPECs offer services that meet the child's physiological, developmental, physical, nutritional and social needs. Children can stay at a PPEC from as little as one hour to as many as 12 hours a day.

Medicaid continues to provide private duty nursing services when needed. However, PPECs are more cost effective, less restrictive, and they reduce the isolation that homebound children can experience. In addition, PPECs provide a central location for other needed services such as therapies or parent training.

I appreciate the work you do for Florida's children, and I hope you will make PPEC services an integral part of your care planning.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Arnold  
Deputy Secretary for Medicaid



2727 Mahan Drive • Mail Stop #20  
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Visit AHCA online at  
[www.fdhc.state.fl.us](http://www.fdhc.state.fl.us)