April 25, 2007

Dear Early Intervention Services Provider:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of a new policy regarding the Individualized Family Support Plan (IFSP) and the Plan of Care (POC) for Early Intervention clients.

The IFSP has been revised by the Department of Health in conjunction with the Agency for Health Care Administration. This new IFSP includes all the components of the POC outlined on page 2-6 of the current Florida Medicaid Early Intervention Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook. You may obtain the new IFSP by visiting the Early Steps website at www.cms-kids.com/EarlyStepsHome.htm or by contacting your local Early Steps office.

Effective June 1, 2007, the new Individualized Family Support Plan may be used as a substitute for the POC given the IFSP contains all the components and requirements of the POC listed on page 2-6 of the current Medicaid Early Intervention Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook. The handbook is presently under revision and will reflect these changes.

The requirement that the POC be renewed or rewritten at least every six months remains in effect. This would typically occur as a result of the IFSP review process. For current clients with both an IFSP and POC in place, you may choose to either renew both the existing IFSP and POC as outlined on page 2-7 of the Medicaid Early Intervention Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook or rewrite the IFSP using the new IFSP form. Because the new IFSP can serve as the POC, if you choose to rewrite the IFSP using the new form, Medicaid does not require that the existing POC be renewed.

If you have questions, you may contact Samantha Dellosso in the Bureau of Medicaid Services at (850) 922-7316 or your area Medicaid office.

Sincerely,

Beth Kidder, Chief
Bureau of Medicaid Services

BK: sd