

## Rebecca Buck

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From: [Harry.Chen@state.vt.us](mailto:Harry.Chen@state.vt.us)  
To: Senator Jane Kitchel  
Subject: Medicaid Policy Group  
Date: Sun, 25 Jan 2015 19:44:52 +0000

Senator Kitchel –

Please see attached memorandum describing the positions that were transferred from DCF and DVHA to the AHS Co to consolidate the Medicaid Policy Group. We decided to make this change to improve efficiency, communication and to further integrate this essential work to better serve the needs of all AHS departments and also the people served by the Agency through Medicaid funds. The staff have been relocated to the AHS CO and the merger is working well already.

Under the prior staffing structure, the DCF staff wrote and administered the Medicaid eligibility rule and that part of the Medicaid rule is posted on the DCF webpage. At the same time, the DVHA staff wrote and administered the Medicaid coverage rule and that part of the Medicaid rule is posted on the DVHA webpage. In evaluating how best to staff these essential AHS experts, we determined that consolidating the staff into a single group at the AHS CO would best achieve the goals. One goal will be to reunite the Medicaid rule into a single rule, posted at a single location on the AHS website so that people can go easily find both the criteria for becoming eligible for Medicaid and the covered services. The complete rule previously was administered by the Department of Social Welfare. It is continues to be a large and complex rule and the goal is to do the best we can to make it accessible and understandable to those who rely on Medicaid services for their health care and also for greater efficiency in the Agency.

Thank you for your interest in the consolidation of this work. Please let me know if you have questions or would like further information.

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TO: All AHS Staff  
FROM: Harry Chen, MD, Acting Secretary *H Chen MD*  
DATE: January 6, 2015  
RE: AHS Medicaid Policy Unit

Effective December 2014, **Medicaid eligibility and coverage policy** is administered out of the AHS Central Office located at 208 Hurricane Lane. Staff in the **AHS Medicaid Policy Unit** continue to perform the same functions, and support the same meetings, people and processes as they did prior to this consolidation.

The purpose of the shift is to improve integration between Medicaid eligibility and Medicaid coverage policy across all of AHS. This will be accomplished by centralizing and co-locating the DCF eligibility and DVHA coverage policy teams:

- Selina Hickman (Medicaid Policy Director) directs Medicaid eligibility and coverage policy priorities and development, legislative initiatives, and leads policy staff.
- Ashley Berliner (Policy & Planning Chief) is the DVHA legislative liaison and leads both policy development and initiatives.
- Robin Chapman (Policy Analyst) is responsible for health benefits eligibility rules, policy and interpretation.
- Susan Coburn (Health Program Administrator) is responsible for children's coverage policy, EPSDT and interfacing with Integrated Family Services (IFS).
- Carrie Dailey (Health Program Administrator) is responsible for autism related grievances, appeals and policy.
- Danielle Delong (Health Program Administrator) is responsible for Medicaid coverage grievance, appeals and dental policy.
- Dylan Frazer (Program Consultant) is responsible for Medicaid Coverage Exception Requests, legislative reports, bill tracking and global commitment reports.
- Linda McLemore (Policy Analyst) is responsible for health benefits eligibility rules, policy and interpretation.
- Lindsay Parker (Health Program Administrator) is responsible for Medicaid State Plan Amendments and Medicaid coverage rules.
- Jeremy Zeliger (Staff Attorney) is responsible for expedited eligibility appeals and supports health benefits eligibility rules, policy and interpretation.

Please continue to work with and think of the **AHS Medicaid Policy Unit** as your resource for Medicaid eligibility and coverage policy. Please contact Selina Hickman with any questions.