State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN
Governor

WILLIAM WALDMAN
Commissioner

VELVET G. MILLER
Director

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 94-22 **DATE:** December 20, 1994

To: County Welfare Agency Directors
Institutional Services Section Area Supervisors

Subject: Adjustment to Spousal Impoverishment Resource Eligibility Figures

The Health Care Financing Administration has just advised of the new resource figures to be used in determining resource eligibility of an institutionalized individual when he or she has a spouse in the community. These new amounts are effective January 1, 1995.

The new minimum community spouse's share of resources is $14,964 and the maximum is $74,820 increasing from $14,532 and $72,660 respectively. These new figures are to be used, beginning with the month of January 1995, in the determination of the community spouse's share and resource eligibility for all institutional cases when there is a community spouse. The new amounts apply to any case which has not yet been determined eligible regardless of the date of application. The new figures apply even if the community spouse's share of the couple's combined total resources were previously determined in a resource assessment.

Example: Mr. Jones entered a long term care facility on October 15. He and his wife had combined resources of $200,000. The community spouse's share of the resources would have been established at $72,660 at the time of the resource assessment. Because the Jones' resources still exceed $74,660 (the community spouse's share plus the $2,000 resource limit), Mr. Jones has not yet attained Medicaid eligibility. Beginning January 1, 1995, the community spouse's share in this case will increase to $74,820. Resource eligibility will exist once the Jones' countable resources are equal to or less than $76,820.

You are advised that the maintenance allowances for community spouse and other dependent relatives are based on the federal poverty guideline and are, therefore, not subject to modification at this time.

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If you have any questions regarding this information, please refer them to the field service staff assigned to your county.

Sincerely,

Velvet G. Miller
Director

VGM:Jm
c Karen Highsmith, Acting Director
Division of Family Development

Patricia Balasco-Barr, Director
Division of Youth and Family Services

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