MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Philip Murphy
   Governor

FROM: Christine Norbut Beyer, MSW
       Commissioner

DATE: August 31, 2018

SUBJECT: Executive Order #4 Response Report

This memorandum is intended to provide information on the Department of Children and Families’ (DCF) efforts to facilitate enrollment in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplace in accordance with Executive Order #4.

DCF works with clients and families at multiple points throughout our programs and services to identify the need for medical insurance, to furnish information on the Affordable Care Act marketplace and other available resources, and to make appropriate referrals.

The network of Family Success Centers, overseen by the Division of Family and Community Partnerships (FCP) and located throughout the state serve as a “one stop shop” for the provision of resources and supports for families, and these have served as both a point of distribution for information about the ACA marketplace and a resource for obtaining assistance with the application process. Many centers have hosted events aimed at easing access to registration for families in their respective catchment areas.

Home visiting programs, also under FCP, have, likewise, linked eligible families to ACA services by providing information, assisting with the application, and providing necessary transportation to marketplaces.
Information on the ACA marketplace, as well as necessary referrals and linkages are also made via FCP's School Based Services program, and through programs operated by the Division on Women. Families identified as being without insurance by the Division of Children's System of Care, whether through its centralized intake at PerformCare, Mobile Response or via one of the Care Management Organizations (CMOs) are referred to New Jersey Family Care and the ACA marketplace as appropriate.

As a provision of the healthcare reform laws that became effective on January 1, 2014, foster youth aging out of care became eligible for Medicaid until they reach the age of 26. Eligible young adults are auto-enrolled in the Medicaid Extension for Young Adults (MEYA) federally reimbursable program as of their 18th or 21st birthday, depending on when they terminate services with the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P). DCF works closely with external partners and participates in trainings and networking conferences to ensure information about MEYA is accessible to all CP&P staff and stakeholders working with older adolescents.

Going forward, DCF will continue to utilize its network of Family Success Centers (56), with multiple locations in every county, as a source and resource for families, whether or not they are involved in Department programming. There, interested residents will find information about social services, job assistance, child care and health and wellness. Material pertaining to the ACA, as well as Medicaid, NJ FamilyCare and other insurance options will continue to be made available. Staff at the centers is trained to assist visitors by identifying their needs and directing them to appropriate services. Likewise, with staff from the Home Visiting program, the Division on Women and within the Children's System of Care.

In these cases, NJ-branded brochures or flyers with information about the ACA would be most effective and useful.

c: Lynn Haynes, Deputy Chief of Staff for Cabinet Affairs & Operations, Office of the Governor
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