

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES** Health Care Financing Administration

## Center for Medicaid and State Operations 7500 Security Boulevard Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

February 3, 1999

INFORMATION

Dear State Medicaid Director:

The purpose of this communication is to share with you a copy of a letter (attached) from HCFA's Administrator, Nancy-Ann Min DeParle, that has been sent to all Medicare providers regarding the Year 2000 computer problem. Because many of them also provide services to Medicaid beneficiaries, many of the providers you rely on for the provision of care to your beneficiaries are likely to also receive the attached letter. We wanted to make certain that you were aware of this important communication. In it, we convey HCFA's readiness to process acceptable claims, and to urge all providers to make sure their systems are also Y2K compliant. A "Sample Provider Y2K Readiness Checklist" is included with the Administrator's letter to assist them in their assessment of their systems' readiness.

In addition, we're enclosing several documents that we developed for educating providers, physicians, suppliers and other Medicare and Medicaid partners regarding Y2K.

Finally, we are also including a listing of Y2K websites that you may find useful on this subject.

If you have any questions, please contact Denise Bazemore or Rick Friedman of my staff for further information. Denise can be reached at tel: 410-786-4449, or DBazemore@hcfa.gov. Rick's number is 410-786-4451; RFriedman2@ hcfa.gov.

Sincerely,

Sally K. Richardson Director

Attachments

cc: ALL HCFA Regional Administrators

ALL HCFA Associate Regional Administrators for Medicaid and State Operations Lee Partridge, Director, Health Policy Unit, American Public Human Services Association Joy Wilson, Director, Health Committee, National Conference of State Legislatures Nolan Jones, Director, Human Resources Group, National Governors' Association John Thomas Flynn, President, National Association of State Information Resource Executives