SCOPE:

County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Administrators
Approved Providers of Targeted Case Management Services
Base Service Unit Directors

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Bulletin is to exempt targeted case management services from Medical Assistance recipient copayment requirements (55 PA Code, Chapter 1101).

BACKGROUND:

The initial Medical Assistance copayment regulations were effective September 1, 1984. These regulations required recipient copayments for most Medical Assistance covered services. These regulations were amended on January 23, 1988 to provide recipient relief from copayment charges in specific situations where hardships resulted from copayment charges. The Department is committed to assure that it does not impose unintended or excessive copayments in specific situations.

The Department expects to amend the Medicaid State Plan from time to time to include targeted case management as an optional service for specifically and separately identified population groups. A Medicaid State Plan Amendment to provide targeted case management (intensive case management) services to persons with serious and persistent mental illness was approved in June, 1988. Targeted case management activities involve assisting recipients in gaining access to needed medical, social, educational and other services. In providing case management services, the recipient is not necessarily required to be physically present to receive the services. Thus, the nature of the service and the manner in which it is provided makes it inappropriate to require copayment by the recipient.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:
Dennis Tyson, Mental Health Program Specialist, Central Area Office of Mental Health, 2330 Arrarat Boulevard, Harrisburg, PA 17110
Telephone: (717) 657-4475
POLICY:

Targeted case management provided as an optional service under the Medicaid State Plan is exempt from recipient copayment requirements. The Department intends to amend the copayment provisions of the Medical Assistance Manual (55 PA Code, Chapter 1101) to incorporate this policy into regulation as soon as possible.