



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE**  
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**KEVIN T. CASEY**  
Deputy Secretary  
Office of Developmental Programs

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Dear Individuals/Families and Representatives:

I am writing to provide you information on the implementation of one statewide Vendor Fiscal/Employer Agent Intermediary Service Organization (VF/EA ISO) for the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP).

ODP decided to use one statewide VF/EA ISO to provide consistent access and implementation to all individuals registered for services who would like to utilize this financial management of services option. As some of you may be aware not all Administrative Entities (AE)/County Programs established contracts with a local VF/EA ISO nor did they establish consistent requirements for implementation. Given the complexity of the VF/EA ISO model and the requirements of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), ODP recognized the need to assist the AEs/County programs by establishing one VF/EA ISO contract statewide. For those of you who have been pleased with the VF/EA ISO in your AE/County Program, we recognize the difficulty you may be having, knowing you will need to transfer to the statewide VF/EA ISO once established. We will minimize this to the extent possible and ask for your support and feedback as we move forward with the statewide contract.

The timeline for implementation for the statewide VF/EA ISO was unfortunately delayed due to the need for a re-bid process. We were hopeful that the re-bid process would be complete by September 2007, but are currently still working to finalize the selection of a qualified vendor. We anticipate having a contract in place by the end of this calendar year for VF/EA ISO services for Consolidated and Person/Family Directed Support Waiver participants. Due to the delay in the contracting process, the transition date for transfer of individuals currently utilizing the local VF/EA ISO's to the statewide VF/EA ISO is being postponed until January 1, 2009. For your information, a more detailed explanation of the reasons for the delay and a revised timeline is included in the attached letter distributed to the AE Directors/Administrators.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we move forward with this revised timeline. New enrollment requests should be processed and honored with your local VF/EA ISO up to April 15, 2008. Requests from that point forward should be directed to the statewide VF/EA ISO for implementation on or after July 1, 2008. We expect your Supports Coordinator or AE to have ongoing communication with you regarding the implementation of the VF/EA ISO so that you can be involved in decision making and planning for the transfer to the statewide vendor.

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In order to ensure statewide access to VF/EA ISO services, AE's/County Programs that do not currently have VF/EA ISO services available must immediately rectify this by either contracting for the service or by partnering with a neighboring AE/County Program for the service. County Programs should continue to contract with local VF/EA ISO's for Base-funded individuals until further notice.

If you have any questions about this correspondence please contact your Supports Coordinator or AE/County Program. We apologize for any inconvenience this change may cause you.

Sincerely,



Kevin T. Casey

Attachment