



County of Erie

MARK C. POLONCARZ
COMPTROLLER

April 14, 2011

Carol Dankert, Commissioner
Erie County Department of Social Services
95 Franklin Street
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Review of Medicaid Costs and Activity

Dear Commissioner Dankert:

The Erie County Comptroller's Office is commencing a review of Erie County's efforts to identify and control fraud in the Medicaid Program ("Medicaid") for the period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010.

Our objectives of this review will be:

- ✓ Document the County's efforts to identify and recover Medicaid fraud;
- ✓ Document the County's participation in any state demonstration projects to reduce Medicaid fraud with the NYS Department of Health or the New York State Office of the Medicaid Inspector General ("OMIG") or any other local, federal or state agency;
- ✓ Analyze the fraud reduction work performed;
- ✓ Assess the success of this fraud reduction work performed;
- ✓ Determine and document any savings identified through these programs;
- ✓ Identify and report on the largest Erie County vendors per year that receive payment from Medicaid;
- ✓ Identify and report how much these vendors received via Medicaid; and
- ✓ Identify and report on efforts to examine these vendors for potential fraud.

We will be working in conjunction with the OMIG for portions of this review.

The team initially assigned to this project will be composed of David Kinda, Chuck Buell, Frank Belliotti, Kim Kajdasz and Judy Paul.

Entrance Letter for Medicaid Review

Dated April 14, 2011

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I suggest that we meet at your office as soon as possible to review our procedures and information needs. If there are specific areas or projects that you would like us to examine, please feel free to bring them to our attention. Please contact me at 858-8430 or via e-mail at szukalam@erie.gov to confirm a meeting date and time. Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,



Michael R. Szukala, MBA CIA
Deputy Comptroller - Audit

cc: Hon. Christopher Collins, Erie County Executive
Hon. Erie County Legislature ✓
Gregory Gach, Director, Budget & Management
Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority
Mark Hennessey, Assistant Medicaid Inspector General – Intergovernmental Affairs