Good Afternoon,

I hope all of you are remaining safe and healthy during this very stressful time and know that our thoughts are with you, your families and your communities.

We have received information regarding continued Medicaid coverage and SNAP benefits that your children and their families may be receiving. At this time, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, those in the community currently up for renewal for Medicaid and SNAP benefits will automatically renew. The interview that is required for SNAP benefits is also waived until further notice. Please see this link for details - Medicaid/SNAP Renewal News.

We should note that the process for juveniles coming back to the community from a facility is different. In these cases, you will need to use the Juvenile Medicaid Tracker (JMT) to facilitate successful access to Medicaid services when the juvenile returns home. This is the best way to help juveniles returning home, as it pushes their information to a special unit at HHSC that is dedicated to screening youth in the juvenile justice system and helping them access Medicaid and CHIP services. Please go to the TJJD Login Page to access the Juvenile Medicaid Tracker, where you can also find a user guide for the application. TJJD and HHSC have published a Plan of Operation that outlines the actions to be taken by juvenile justice and HHSC personnel within the Juvenile Medicaid Tracker.

The public assistance provided through HHSC by the Medicaid, CHIP and SNAP programs are vitally important to many during the present pandemic situation. Here are some contacts available to all of you as you help the families you serve to access these services:

- Applications for services can be completed online via computer or mobile app. Please go to TexasBenefits.com for information.

- For general information about services provided to recipients specific to COVID-19, please visit: Medicaid and CHIP Services Covid-19 Information for People Receiving Services

- Texans can dial 2-1-1 and select option 6 for information on COVID-19 and local community resources on health care, utilities, food, housing and more. 2-1-1 also offers very detailed information on the current application process.

As we receive updates on any changes we will notify you immediately. Thank you for your hard work and continued support and patience. Please do not hesitate in contacting me with questions or concerns, and I will do my best to answer them in a timely manner.

Respectfully,