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DIVISION: Office of Medicaid Management

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TO: Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors

FROM: Kathryn Kuhmerker, Deputy Commissioner, Office of Medicaid Management

SUBJECT: Recruitment of Managed Care Plans to Provide Family Health Plus/Medicaid Facilitated Enrollment

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT PERSON: Family Health Plus Unit: (518) 473-5330

On February 9, 2001, you were sent a copy of the Family Health Plus (FHPlus) Plan Recruitment Notices. These notices were sent to eligible Medicaid Managed Care and Child Health Plus (CHPlus) Managed Care plans to offer them the opportunity to provide FHPlus services and optionally to also expand their current CHPlus/Medicaid facilitated enrollment activities to include assisting adults applying for FHPlus. Applications from plans must be submitted to the Department by March 16, 2001. This GIS provides information about the role of local social services districts in the process of establishing facilitated enrollment for FHPlus.

Local social services districts have already been engaged in the implementation of facilitated enrollment protocols with organizations serving their communities. Plans that are applying to expand their facilitated enrollment activities to include FHPlus will need to work with the local districts to develop an amended set of protocols which address adult applications. To assure the involvement of the local districts in this expansion, applicant plans are required to submit Letters of Support from the district in counties where they are applying to provide facilitated enrollment.

Prior to final contract approval, plans will also need to submit a copy of the operating protocols that have been agreed upon by the district and the plans.

As with CHPlus, the success of FHPlus facilitated enrollment will depend upon the working relationship between the local social services districts and the facilitated enrollment organizations working in their communities. Much progress has been made in resolving operational issues related to this new function. Local districts must be prepared to work with plan applicants as necessary to provide general letters of support, and to modify current protocols for children's applications to address the new activities related to assisting adults in applying for health care. State staff are available to provide guidance with this process.