March 14, 2006

Dear Interested Party,

I am pleased to inform you that beginning March 29, 2006, the New York State Department of Health will hold a series of seven regional collaboration sessions across the state to discuss the design and development of a restructured long term care system in New York. During these sessions, participants will be given an opportunity to express their ideas on how to effectively reform long term care in NYS. Attached please find a registration application as well as the schedule and agenda for the sessions.

Please submit the enclosed registration application using one of the following methods: [Please note the reply date on the session schedule]

1. By Mail: Registration Services at CDHS
   1695 Elmwood Avenue
   Buffalo, NY 14207-2407

2. By Fax: (716)796-2202

Government agencies with access to CDHS STARS should register through this system.

We are expecting a large turnout for these sessions. While we will make every effort to accommodate as many participants as possible, we may have to limit the number of individuals from each organization that may attend. Registration will be confirmed prior to each session.

If you are unable to attend a regional session, there will be further opportunities for you to provide input on the design and development of a restructured long term care system in New York State. In the near future, a Request for Information (RFI) will be issued to elicit your ideas regarding community resources, service coordination and management, service programs, system oversight, infrastructure, cost neutrality, and implementation of the new system.

Individuals who need accommodations for a disability in order to attend a collaboration session, have questions, or require additional information should contact Cynthia Jones at (518) 408-3744.

Very truly yours,

Betty R. Rice, Director
New York State Department of Health
Office of Medicaid Management
Division of Consumer and Local District Relations
Regional Collaboration Session Agenda

10:00am: Registration and Coffee
10:15am: An overview of long term care restructuring
11:30am: Q/A
12:00pm: Lunch will be served
1:00pm: Group discussions on restructuring
3:00pm: Adjournment

While the agenda does not provide the opportunity for individual testimony, anyone wishing to furnish written comments on long term care restructuring for consideration by the Department of Health is welcome to do so at any session.

Regional Collaboration Session Schedule

Wednesday, March 29, 2006
Region III: Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, and Ulster
Location: Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel
40 Civic Center Plaza
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
RSVP by: Thursday, March 23, 2006

Wednesday, April 5, 2006
Region V: Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, St. Lawrence, Tioga, and Tompkins Counties
Location: Holiday Inn in Liverpool (Syracuse)
441 Electronics Parkway
Liverpool, NY 13088
RSVP by: Thursday, March 23, 2006

Thursday, April 13, 2006
Region VI: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates Counties
Location: Rochester Airport Marriott
1890 West Ridge Road
Rochester, NY 14615
RSVP by: Thursday, March 30, 2006
Tuesday, April 18, 2006
Location: Holiday Inn Turf
205 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12205
RSVP by: Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Tuesday, April 25, 2006
Region II: Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens, and Richmond
Location: Brooklyn Marriott
333 Adams Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
RSVP by: Tuesday, April 11, 2006

Tuesday, May 9, 2006
Location: Queensbury Hotel
88 Ridge Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801
RSVP by: Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Wednesday, May 31, 2006
Region I: Nassau, Suffolk, and Westchester
Location: Uniondale Marriott in Nassau
101 James Doolittle Boulevard
Uniondale, NY 11553
RSVP by: Monday, May 15, 2006

* Please note that there are 2 sessions scheduled for Region IV. The May 9, 2006 session will be for those who are unable to attend the session on April 18, 2006, as well as any individuals who are unable to attend the session in their respective region.