

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-14-26
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



Center for Medicaid and State Operations

April 15, 2010

Nancy Thaler, Executive Director
NASDDDS
113 Oronoco Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Nancy:

Thank you so much for your letter of February 2, 2010 and enclosed recommendations about changes to the 1915(c) Waiver Technical Guide related to employment supports. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is extremely appreciative of the significant work of the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services' Supported Employment Leadership Network. As you know, staff at CMS have been working closely with all of the National Associations regarding ways for CMS to increase employment opportunities through various Medicaid authorities and specifically updating guidance in the Waiver Technical Guide for Version 3.6. Your recommendations provide a very significant and positive step towards our mutual goals to improve employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

We look forward to the continued opportunity to collaborate with NASDDDS and the other National Associations as we move forward with our efforts to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Coulter Edwards". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Barbara Coulter Edwards
Director

cc: Suzie Bosstick
Nancy Kirchner
Kathy Poisal
Mary Sowers