



# Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad  
Governor

Kim Reynolds  
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer  
Director

December 15, 2011

Michael Marshall  
Secretary of Senate  
State Capital  
LOCAL

Charlie Smithson  
Chief Clerk of the House  
State Capital  
LOCAL

Dear Mr. Marshall and Mr. Smithson

Please find below the report to the General Assembly relative to the implementation of the allocated funds to be used in the development of more streamlined and efficient quality assurance processes for the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) oversight. This report was prepared pursuant to directive contained in 2011 Iowa Acts House File 649 (HF 649).

The IME was tasked with working with providers, associations and contracted agencies to develop revisions to the system of oversight that represent consistent and articulated expectations for HCBS providers. These consistent and articulated expectations will align with the laws, rules and regulations of the State of Iowa and the Federal government.

HF 649 also directs the Department to submit a report to the addressed parties by December 15, 2011, regarding the modifications made thus far regarding the HCBS quality assurance program. The modifications made to date include:

- The IME has worked with the provider association and the contracted HCBS quality assurance entity to develop a provider Self-Assessment that is bound by the laws, rules, and regulations of the State of Iowa and the Federal government. The announcement regarding these revisions was published by the IME in Informational Letter No. 1030 on August 12, 2011.
- The State of Iowa, Department of Human Services, Bureau of Long Term Care hired an individual to oversee HCBS quality assurance processes effective October 28, 2011. This position is to ensure that the quality assurance processes remain consistent with the IME goals of maintaining an efficient, consistent and collaborative relationship with the community.

Sincerely,

  
Jennifer Davis Harbison  
Policy Advisor

cc: Governor Terry E. Branstad  
Senator Jack Hatch  
Senator David Johnson  
Representative David Heaton  
Representative Lisa Heddens  
Legislative Services Agency  
Kris Bell, Senate Majority Staff  
Josh Bronsink, Senate Minority Staff  
Brad Trow, House Majority Staff  
Zeke Furlong, House Minority Staff