



## COUNTY OF LEHIGH

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### **Department of Public Welfare: DPW releases statement on co-payment initiative.**

Text of Oct. 5, 2012 press release.

Harrisburg - Department of Public Welfare Secretary Gary D. Alexander today released a statement about the department's co-payment initiative for families of eligible children with mental and physical disabilities.

In his statement, Alexander said:

"The department has always preferred the option of applying a premium to this program and will be working with stakeholders who have come to us in support of a premium as opposed to the co-payment. Therefore, we have decided to delay the co-payment initiative, and families will not owe a co-payment for any services until further notice."

"Stakeholders have clearly indicated to the department an understanding of the need for families to contribute to this program. With the delay, there is an opportunity to work with stakeholders to continue to pursue the premium from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. We look forward to working with them in achieving this shared goal."

"Once a decision is reached, we will immediately inform any affected families."

Pennsylvanians who suspect welfare fraud should call 1-800-932-0582.

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