SUBJECT: Acceptable Signers of the Beneficiary Choice Form for the Infants, Toddlers and Families Medicaid Waiver.

TO: County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Administrators
   County Early Intervention Coordinators
   Service Coordination Entities

FROM: Harriet Dichter
       Deputy Secretary, Office of Child Development

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this announcement is to reissue Office of Mental Retardation Bulletin # 00-99-13, titled Acceptable Signers of the Beneficiary Choice Form for Infant/Toddler/Family Waiver as an Office of Child Development announcement. Announcement ELS/EI-06 #10 clarifies who may sign the certification of choice form (PW457) for children considered for the Infants, Toddlers and Families Medicaid Waiver.

BACKGROUND:

Following the development of the Infants, Toddlers and Families Medicaid Waiver, questions arose concerning the ability of foster parents to sign the freedom of choice for the children considered for the Infants, Toddlers and Families Medicaid Waiver.

DISCUSSION:

Since children in foster care are under the custodial supervision of a County Children, Youth and Family Agency, it is the responsibility of the County Children, Youth and Family Agency to have a representative of that agency or one of the child's parents sign the certification of choice form as the child's legal representative. Choice forms may not be signed by foster parents.

Comments and Questions Regarding this Announcement Should be Directed to Your Regional EI Coordinator.