

September 27, 2017

## SENT VIA EMAIL

Mr. Thomas Sieger ABC for Health, Inc. Email: <u>tsieger@safetyweb.org</u>

## RE: Right-To-Know Law Request No. 17-RTKL-319

Dear Mr. Sieger:

On September 20, 2017, the Department of Human Services (department) received your request for information pursuant to the Pennsylvania *Right-To-Know Law, 65 P.S.* §§ 67.101, et seq. (RTKL).

Your request is as follows:

A 2010 survey conducted by the National Council of Child Support Directors indicated that at that time, your state pursued the recovery of some portion of Medicaid supported birthing costs from non-custodial fathers. As you are aware, this practice is allowed under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act. ABC for Health, Inc. of Madison, Wisconsin is a nonprofit public interest law firm conducting a follow-up survey of Child Support Agencies within the nine states who at some level pursued birth cost recovery in 2010 to determine if state policy has changed. We are doing this via the Open Records/Freedom of Information policy among the nine individual states. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in responding to the few questions below.

- 1. Does your state continue to pursue recovery of MA supported birthing costs from non-custodial parents?
- 2. If yes, could you share the total dollars recovered for the year 2015?
- 3. Does your state sanction mothers on medical assistance for noncooperation, that is failing to identify the father of their child, by revoking MA benefits after the birth?
- 4. If yes, could you share the total number of women sanctioned in 2015?
- 5. Please share your name and contact information. Would you be amendable to a quick follow-up phone call?

This letter acknowledges receipt of your written request and is an interim response, not a final response to your request. Under the RTKL, a written response to your request is due on or before September 27, 2017.

However, under the provisions of 65 P.S. §67.902(b)(2), you are hereby notified that your request is being reviewed for the reason(s) listed below and this agency will require *up to* an additional 30 days, or until October 27, 2017, within which to respond to your request.

• The extent or nature of the request precludes a response within the required time period.

The estimated or actual total for any fees that may be owed when the records become available will be included in our final response. Prepayment is required before providing access when the estimated cost to fulfill a request exceeds \$100.00. 65 P.S. § 67.1307(h).

If you have additional questions related to this RTKL response, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Andrea Bankes

Andrea Bankes Agency Open Records Officer