

Medical Assistance Transportation Operations Memorandum *Operations* MATP OPS # 02/2012-028

Date: February 15, 2012

Subject: MATP CAO referrals

To: All Statewide County MATP Program Offices

From: Tyrone E. Williams, Director, Medical Assistance Transportation Program

Purpose

To provide guidance to MATP County Program offices regarding CAO Referrals during a shutdown in services

Background:

The Department of Public Welfare (DPW) has started to receive notices from MATP county Administrators of projected shutdown dates for MATP services. A few years ago, when a state budget impasse forced some counties to temporarily stop MATP services, counties were instructed to refer recipients to the County Assistance Office (CAO) for medical assistance transportation services. In most cases the CAOs were able to accommodate recipient requested services during the temporary county shutdown period.

Discussion:

To preserve funds, DPW's Office of Income Maintenance has directed the CAOs to not expend their transportation grants on Medical Assistance transportation due to a shutdown in services. Therefore, in the event of a county MATP shutdown, County MATP Program Offices are advised **to not refer** MATP recipients to their local CAO during the length of the shutdown period. Counties that shutdown MATP operations are not to issue recipients the standard MATP CAO referral form, nor are they to direct recipients to the CAO via language on any correspondence advising them of a county MATP shutdown.

Please note that county agencies that remain in operation may still refer recipients to the CAO if their transportation requests are determined to be exceptional.

Next Steps:

Please take the appropriate steps to comply with this guidance. You may contact your MATP program advisor with any questions.