



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
MENTAL HYGIENE
Thomas Farley, MD, MPH
Commissioner

June 2010

Dear Beneficiary,

Since 2008, the City of New York, through the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's 9/11 Benefit Program for Mental Health and Substance Use Services (the "NYC Benefit Program"), has covered out-of-pocket clinical expenses for those with mental health issues related to the events of 9/11. We are proud to have helped these individuals in their recovery.

The NYC Benefit Program has filled an important need by temporarily continuing a privately funded program that ensured cost would not be a barrier for people seeking 9/11-related mental health care or substance use treatment. Today, however, any New York City resident who worked or lived in the vicinity of the World Trade Center can seek specialized 9/11-related care for physical health, mental health, or substance use issues through three federally funded Centers of Excellence. Funding for 9/11 health services remains a federal responsibility, and the City will continue to advocate for strong federal support.

We would like to remind you that, as we indicated when you enrolled, the NYC Benefit Program will end on January 7, 2011. Services you receive after that date will not qualify for reimbursement through this program. In order to receive reimbursement for services received by January 7, 2011, you must submit claims to QualCare by March 31, 2011. Claims received after that date will not be reimbursed by the NYC Benefit Program. Please submit your claims as soon as possible after the date of service to ensure prompt reimbursement.

If you wish to continue receiving services from your current provider after the NYC Benefit Program expires, you can do so, but you will no longer receive reimbursement from the Benefit Program for your out-of-pocket expenses. If you would like to find an alternative provider, please see the enclosed sheet for a list of provider and referral resources.

We hope that our program has helped you in your effort to deal with the impact of 9/11. Please contact your benefit coordinator if you have any questions. If you no longer have your benefit coordinator's contact information, please call the NYC Benefit Program at 888-692-4911.

Sincerely,

Adam Karpati, MD, MPH
Executive Deputy Commissioner for Mental Hygiene