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"Real Choice Systems Change Grant" Awarded by CMS to New York State DOH

We are pleased to announce that the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has awarded a Real Choice Systems Change Grant to New York State. The award, based on the grant submission of last summer, totals \$1.385 million and will run for three years from September 30, 2002 through September 30, 2005. CMS staff have confirmed that no additional awards are anticipated at this time.

Department of Health is now reviewing last year's application. Since the grant we were awarded is for approximately one-third the funding level of the original grant request, we will have to rescale our activities to maximize the impact for our more limited investment. DOH has opened the implementation planning process to other interested organizations, including NYSOFA and NYSAAAA. We have been invited to a meeting in April to initiate review of the original grant application and to investigate the options involved in rescaling the scope of the grant based on the smaller award.

We will continue to keep you informed of our involvement in this important effort.

C:\My Documents, Aopen\Committees, incl Legislative\Legislative Committee\2002 Legislative--NYS\2002-15, Real Choice Grant received by DOH 4-8-02.doc