From: <u>Linnea Williams</u>
To: <u>E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA</u>

Subject: Thank you for supporting birth control access for all women

Date: Tuesday, August 02, 2011 6:41:05 PM

Dear Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health & Human Services,

Thank you so much for this decision. I work for Planned Parenthood of Northern New England and see many women to give them contraceptives and care. We are able to give the women without insurance very good or free prices on their supplies. However the women with insurance often have a harder time affording their supplies. Some of them have as much as \$60/month copays for their specific methods. It is difficult to see these women who figured they were covered struggle to pay their copays. Some actually don't bill their insurance because using our sliding fee scale is so much cheaper. If they have a high copay and the sliding scale price is cheaper then we do knock down the price but if they don't fall on our scale then they still struggle. This new rule is not only helpful but makes so much sense I can't believe it took this long. I have never understood since the insurance companies are all about making and saving money why they wouldn't pay for birth control considering it is cheaper for them to pay for me to have contraceptives rather than pay for me to have a baby and

is cheaper for them to pay for me to have contraceptives rather than pay for me to have a baby and that baby's continuing care. This is great news and I commend you for this decision.

Sincerely,

Linnea Williams

6D Hillside Lane Westford, vt 05494