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April 10, 2012

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Gerald S. Hartman
Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
1500 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-1209

Re: Grant from the Barbara McDowell and Gerald S. Hartman Foundation

Dear Mr. Hartman:

We are pleased to report that our efforts in Hawaii have had an impact on the State's conduct and has set the groundwork for further advocacy efforts to reform the processing of Medicaid benefits for low income Hawaiians. The impact of the very successful Food Stamp class action we won in Hawaii has been great. After the federal judge issued a first of its kind injunction requiring the State to timely process Food Stamp applications, we were able to build upon that injunction and achieve an order in which the State is obligated to:

- (a) achieve absolute compliance with federal processing time lines;
- (b) provide extensive notice of the right to apply for and timely receive Food Stamps if eligible; and
- (c) turn over to plaintiffs' counsel extensive monitoring and reporting.

The Food Stamp injunction and order have (1) enabled NCLEJ to learn considerably more about the operation of the State benefits processing offices and to identify reasons for the delays in processing and (2) forced the State to develop a business process work plan to streamline operations in the State's benefits offices. We believe that both of those will make it far easier for NCLEJ to secure improvements in Medicaid processing.

As we move forward, we will be engaging in outreach, coordination, further fact gathering, and appropriate legal advocacy to ensure that low-income Hawaiian families are able to secure and retain Medicaid.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marc Cohan
Director of Litigation

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