

## **Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services on the MA Asset Verification requirement:**

There are two ways adults with children may qualify for MA:

- As a disabled adult themselves (tight asset limit and processed through MAXIS) or
- As a parent with child(ren) in their home (no asset limit and processed through METS/MNSURE). This is a better category, and adults can be switched from the first category into this one – SMRLS can assist clients.

The letters from DHS regarding asset verification are going out to adults in the first category on a monthly basis starting in September 2019 (one year from their renewal date). DHS will not start using the income information until September 2020 at the earliest.

SMRLS's advice is:

- If adults who are parents of child(ren) with MA/PMAP health insurance are OK with signing the form and mailing it in, it's OK for them to do this. We should then coach them to watch to see if their children lose MA/PMAP at some point and if this happens to immediately contact SMRLS.
- If adults who are parents of child(ren) with MA/PMAP health insurance are upset and do not want to sign the form, refer them to SMRLS so SMRLS staff can help them get their status changed.
- If adults who are parents of child(ren) with MA/PMAP health insurance do not sign and return the form and their children lose MA/PMAP health insurance, refer them immediately to SMRLS because this should be able to be fixed.

The DHS Ombudsman for Managed Care Office is a place that clients and staff can call to find out what is happening if MA/PMAP health insurance is lost.

Unfortunately, this is the time that routine MAGI information request forms are sent out to verify income for 5 years from METS/MNSURE. This can contribute to additional confusion.