As you know, Phases I and II of the NYS Department of Social Services (DSS) and the NYS Department of Correctional Services (DOCS) joint initiative to provide eyeglass materials to Medicaid recipients have been implemented and the program appears to be operating successfully. Our program monitoring indicates that problems noticed upon initial implementation of Phase I, such as lag time in completion of orders and eyeglasses returned to DOCS for correction, have improved significantly. As of December, there were 37 dispensing providers participating in the program, having generated over 6,000 orders. It is anticipated that Phase III will be implemented in June 1994 and Phase IV in October 1994.

Enclosed is an informational brochure developed by DOCS that details the Wallkill optical laboratory, its purpose and history. If you would like additional copies of this brochure to distribute to providers in your area you may contact Mr. John Conroy, Director of Correctional Industries, NYS Department of Correctional Services, 550 Broadway, Menands, New York 12204.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sue Kelly
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Health and Long Term Care