

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Aging and Adult Services

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Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

Dennis W. Streets
Director

DAAS Administrative Letter No. 10-06

To: Area Agencies on Aging Directors

From: Dennis W. Streets Finnis W. Theat

Subject: SFY 10-11 Regional Allocations

Date: April 5, 2010

Enclosed, please find the SFY 09-10 regional allocations for the following:

- 1. Planning and Administration
- 2. Title III-B, State funded Ombudsman, and Elder Abuse Program;
- 3. Minimum budget amounts for in-home services, access services and legal services;
- 4. Title III-D Disease Prevention and Health Promotion funding;
- 5. Title III-E Family Caregiver Support funding; and
- 6. Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) funding.

SFY 10-11 Home and Community Care Block Grant funding totals \$53,156,191 and is a 2.45% increase over the SFY 09-10 HCCBG funding that totaled \$51,884,789. As a reminder, the increase includes 09-10 regional transfers of Title III-B funding from Supportive Services to Ombudsman and transfers from HCCBG services to Legal services. **The NSIP meals supplement rate will remain at \$.60 per meal.**

The 2.45% increase also represents a partial award of \$1,723,000 in FY 09 funding that was withheld due to the uncertainty of state funds during SFY 09-10 and a slight increase in FY 10 Title III funding. The Division is withholding \$1,000,000 in Title III funds until after the 2010 legislative session and such time that we have reasonable certainty of state funding for SFY 10-11. The \$1,000,000 will be allocated no later than September, 2010 to meet federal award requirements. These actions represent the Division's continuing efforts to avoid having to reduce state HCCBG funding during the year. **This is only a strategy and there are no guarantees that HCCBG funding reductions will not have to occur.**

Area agencies are aware that the State Data Center has significantly adjusted the statistical model for estimating county populations by age. The Division was not fully aware of this change until early this year and has made the decision to maintain the SFY 09-10 Intrastate Funding Formula and Caregiver demographics for SFY 10-11. This is necessary to best maintain services in a time when counties are so vulnerable to the difficult economy. The Division and area agencies also need time to evaluate these changes, consider the timing of upcoming 2010 Census data, and ensure reasonable stability in community based services through hold harmless policy and other considerations. The Division will work with area agencies this year to determine the best means to proceed through the Intrastate Funding Formula until 2010 Census data becomes available.

The SFY 10-11 HCCBG budget instructions, along with the HCCBG formats are available on the division's website at www.ncdhhs.gov/aging/cobudget/cobudgdn.htm. HCCBG instructions are unchanged from last year. Emphasis is continuing to be placed on cost development for services. Service providers must provide lead agencies with their service costs development worksheets (DoA-732A) and labor distribution schedules (DoA-732A1) along with their service summaries, as specified on page 16 of the HCCBG Budget Instructions.

SFY 10-11 Title III-E Family Caregiver Support funding is \$4,456,002. This is an increase of 0.98% in comparison to current SFY 09-10 funding of \$4,412,601. For several years, the Division has accelerated the expenditure of remaining prior years' III-E federal funding by including additional funding as a part of the annual allocation. The SFY 10-11 allocation continues to include an additional \$500,000 that was also provided in SFY 09-10. This additional funding reduces the possibility that any Federal Title III-E funding will be reverted to the Administration on Aging.

The Title III-D Health Promotion and Disease Prevention federal award is increased by 2.02% from \$605,524 to \$617,758. You will note on the Title III-D formula worksheet that eight (8) counties continue not to be designated as medically underserved. A county is considered medically underserved if one township or census tract in the county is determined to be underserved.

Area agencies have the opportunity to consider Title III-B Ombudsman funding needs by returning the attached *HCCBG County Funding Worksheet for SFY 10-11* to Gary Cyrus by **April 20.** However, because of the current uncertainty of state funding for services, the Division strongly discourages any transfer from III-B services to Ombudsman unless there is extreme need. Conditions for considering Ombudsman transfers may be improved pending the outcome of funding for HCCBG services and the award of the remaining FY 09 federal Title III B and C funding. There is no concern with transferring HCCBG funding to legal services. If the region elects to increase to increase III-B Ombudsman funding, counties are to be made aware that HCCBG formula funding is being decreased. This particularly important in situations where county funding would fall below 95% of SFY 04-05 HCCBG funding. If no changes are being made in county allocations, please email Gary. The Division will review this information and will, jointly with each area agency on aging, provide HCCBG funding to each county no later than May 4. Regions that are not transferring funding from III-B services to Ombudsman may contact counties with funding information ahead of the joint notification from DAAS and the area agency.

Please contact Gary Cyrus at (919) 733-8390 or at gary.cyrus@dhhs.nc.gov with any questions.

DWS/ghc

Attachments

cc: Maria Spaulding
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