

DAAS ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO. 17-01

To: Area Agencies on Aging

From: Suzanne P. Merrill, Director Sugare P. Meuril

Subject: Updated Division of Aging and Adult Services Health Services Standards

Date: January 3, 2017

Effective immediately, the Division of Aging and Adult Services' (DAAS) Older Americans Act Title III-D Evidence-based Disease Prevention-Health Promotion Services Standards have been updated to meet the new federal requirements and have been merged to include Title III-B Health Promotion/Disease Prevention and Health Screening Services Standards. As you know per earlier communications, only evidence-based programs meeting the highest tier criteria are allowed with Title III-D funds, effective July 1, 2016. The combined standards will be referred to as the DAAS Health Services Standards.

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) has a <u>webpage</u> on the Title III-D requirements and a link to the <u>federally-approved list of programs</u> on the National Council on Aging website. These funds cannot support senior games, laughter yoga, health fairs, health screening events, etc. The federal rule went into effect October 1, 2016, but the North Carolina requirements became effective this current state fiscal year (July 1, 2016).

The new DAAS Health Services Standards also include the policies addressing Title III-B Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Services (service code 220) and Title III-B Health Screening Services (service code 060). As an alternative to using Title III-D funds (service code 401), providers may use Title III-B supportive services funding to support healthy aging programs and services that do not meet the Title III-D funding criteria (including senior games and health screening efforts). No major changes were made to the Title III-B health related service standards. The new DAAS Health Services Standards may be found on the DAAS website: DAAS Health Services Standards.

We appreciate your many efforts and diligence to comply with these new guidelines. If you have any questions please email Audrey Edmisten at audrey.edmisten@dhhs.nc.gov.

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