



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Division of Aging and Adult Services

2101 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2101

Tel 919 855-3400 • Fax No. 919 715-0023

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor
Albert A. Delia, Acting Secretary

Dennis W. Streets, Director
919-855-3400

July 30, 2012

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Subject: Guardianship Allocations for SFY 2012-13

As you know, Session Law 2012-142 (HB 950-Budget Bill) and Session Law 2012-151 (SB 191-LME Governance, including guardianship changes) ratified by the General Assembly earlier this month provide the authority and some funding to transition public agency guardianship to county departments of social services (DSS). The Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) Spending Plan in Session Law 2012-142 identifies \$4,356,604 for guardianship services. This funding will be used to: (1) continue contracts with guardianship corporations; (2) provide support to DSSs for wards transferred from LME/MCOs from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012; and (3) provide support to DSSs for wards transferred from public health departments and county departments on aging as a result of the changes in Session Law 2012-151. Additional information will follow soon about the overall transition, but with allocations soon to be made, we are communicating more quickly about this part of the transition.

As part of the Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) year of transition during SFY 2012-13, the Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) will use a portion of the SSBG funding to contract with corporations previously under contract with LME/MCOs to provide guardianship services and to maintain a state level contract already in place for guardianship services. The DAAS contracts include twelve corporations and 1,429 wards. The 1,429 number has been verified as part of the contracting process. The contracts are currently being negotiated to be able to reimburse the corporations for July services in August. These contracts are for SFY 2012-13 only.

As we have done with the corporations for contracting, we need an accurate number of wards to determine the SFY 2012-13 allocations to DSSs. Since early June we have continued to gather data from DSSs to verify the number of wards expected to be transferred by June 30, 2012, and then shared that data with you. However, there are still some discrepancies in the number of wards reported as transferred to you. This is important since these numbers will be the basis of your guardianship allocation for this year. Corporations and DSSs will receive equivalent funding to serve their wards. The funding amount shared in previous communication was approximately \$2,500 per year per ward, but that amount could change depending on the actual number of wards transferred to DSSs. The guardianship allocation will be included in your regular SSBG allocation and will require a 25% match.

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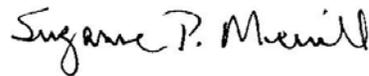
In a final attempt to verify the number of wards transferred from LME/MCOs to DSSs from July 1, 2011 thru June 30, 2012, we have attached a copy of the most recent data collected from DSS staff. The LME/MCO numbers have fluxuated while the numbers from health departments and county departments on aging have remained consistent.

Please carefully review the LME Guardianship Transition Data attachment for accuracy. In addition, please complete the SFY 2012-2013 Guardianship Allocation excel spreadsheet attachment listing the name, date of birth, SIS ID, and date of appointment for wards transferred to you from an LME/MCO from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 and/or from a public health department or county department on aging as a result of the General Assembly's recently enacted changes in Session Law 2012-151. This will allow us to verify that we have included all transferred wards in the Blanket Bond Guardianship Database and will provide your certification that the allocation will be used for guardianship services for these wards.

Please submit the SFY 2012-13 Guardianship Allocation spreadsheet to Michelle Wilder-Baker no later than **the close of business on Friday, August 3, 2012**. You may submit the form by e-mail to Michelle.Wilder@dhhs.nc.gov or by fax at 919-715-0023. It is imperative that you submit the spreadsheet in order to receive an allocation.

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Wilder-Baker at 919-855-3464 or Michelle.Wilder@dhhs.nc.gov or me at 919-855-3460 or Suzanne.Merrill@dhhs.nc.gov

Sincerely,



Suzanne P. Merrill, Chief
Adult Services Section

/spm

Attachments

AFS-11-2012