

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mark Davis, Ohio Provider Resource Association
Pete VanRunkle, Ohio Healthcare Association
Dan Connors, Values and Faith Alliance
Kathy Phillips, Ohio Waiver Network
Lori Stanfa, Ohio Association of County Boards
ICF Providers
CB Superintendents
SSA Directors
Sadie Hunter, People First
Karla Rinto, APSI
Gary Tonks, ARC
Dana Charlton, OSDA

FROM: Ginnie Whisman, Deputy Director, Division of Residential Resources

DATE: February 24, 2016

SUBJECT: Bridge Funding

DODD is pleased to announce that effective March 1, 2016, individuals who move out of an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) to a waiver as the result of a conversion of the ICF/IID bed or an exit waiver will now be eligible to receive up to \$1,000 to assist in moving to their new home.

Any individual who has lived in an ICF/IID for more than 90 days is already eligible for up to \$2,000 HOME Choice money for goods/services required to start a new household when they leave the facility to be served on a waiver in a community setting. In some cases, this is still not enough to transition to the community if the individual has little to no resources. Due to this, we are offering additional “startup” money.

Individuals transitioning from an ICF/IID into their future home must exhaust all available resources before making a request for additional “start-up” funds. In those instances in which all available resources are exhausted and items are still needed, we will provide additional start-up funds of up to \$1,000/person. Items would include but are not limited to purchase of furnishing and appliances, fees for the installation and/or deposit fees of utilities, and adaptive equipment not covered by Medicaid.

This will be reimbursed to the provider or county board (depending on which entity expended the funds) using a standard invoice (Attachment A). The provider or county board must sign a statement (Attachment B) attesting to the fact that all known, available resources for that individual have been exhausted and the team agrees with the purchases. Receipts must also be attached for items purchased. Invoices (and supporting documentation) can be submitted to Lisa Hutchison at lisa.hutchison@dodd.ohio.gov.

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We would also like to remind you of the availability of rental assistance subsidies. In July 2015, the DODD initiated a new Rental Assistance Program (RAP) to provide tenant-based rent subsidies for persons with developmental disabilities leaving a Developmental Center or a private Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID). Subsidies are based on an individual's income and may be used in any kind of housing when the individual has a lease or rental agreement and where the housing meets fair market rent standards and safety inspections. For more information contact Ernie Fischer at ernie.fischer@dodd.ohio.gov or call (614) 752-3013.

PAYMENT OF SERVICES

In order for the State of Ohio to process invoices and pay providers or vendors, they must become a Service Provider in our system, which is called OAKS. The Medicaid Claims System (MITS) is not part of OAKS; therefore, you must become a service provider even if you are in the MITS system. If you are already an OAKS Service Provider, you will not need to re-enter your information.

To become an OAKS Service Provider:

Go to website (<http://ohiosharedservices.ohio.gov/SupplierOperations/Forms.aspx>) and complete the first two forms (Supplier Information Form and IRS Form W-9). There are instructions on the form that the completed and signed documents can be emailed, faxed, or mailed to Ohio Shared Services. Please make sure the Supplier name you provide on both forms matches exactly. For example if you include a middle initial for your name on one form, then you must include it in the name on the other form. Also, both forms require a handwritten signature. Forms with electronic signatures will be rejected.

It is important to note that we have limited money available for this initiative; therefore, once funds are exhausted we will not be able to offer these incentives. Please check with Lisa Hutchison at lisa.hutchison@dodd.ohio.gov prior to expending funds so you can assure the money is still available.

If there are other things you feel would be helpful for individuals or providers as you convert ICF/IID, please contact me to share your ideas at ginnie.whisman@dodd.ohio.gov or (614) 644-6319.

The staff of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities genuinely appreciate all of the efforts Ohio ICF Providers and County Boards have put toward this important initiative – to help people move out of developmental centers and ICFs/IID. Thank you for your ongoing input and feedback on ways to help us accomplish this critical mission.

Thank you.