



MENTAL RETARDATION BULLETIN

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

DATE OF ISSUE
April 6, 2000

EFFECTIVE DATE
Immediately

NUMBER
00-00-03

SUBJECT:

**Person Family Directed Support Waiver
Supplemental Grant Agreement for 1999-2002**

BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy R. Thaler".

**Nancy R. Thaler
Deputy Secretary for Mental Retardation**

SCOPE

County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Administrators

PURPOSE

The purpose of this bulletin is to transmit the provisions of the supplemental grant agreement between the Department of Public Welfare, Office of Mental Retardation, and County Mental Health Mental Retardation (MH/MR) Programs for services provided under the Department's Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS) Waiver, Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) # 0354.

BACKGROUND

The Department's approved P/FDS Waiver under Section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act provides for a grant agreement between the Department and the County MH/MR Program for the administration of waiver funded services. Grant agreements under the waiver have been in place since the waiver's inception in 1983 as a primary means for ensuring accountability in the use of federal and state funds.

DISCUSSION

This new P/FDS Waiver supplemental grant agreement is being sent to the County MH/MR Administrators for signature by the appropriate county commissioners or county authority, who may be the County MH/MR Program Administrator. Where a county purchases administrative services necessary for implementation and operation of this waiver from another agency, the county may have that agency co-sign this agreement with the county authority.

This agreement is to be effective with services provided on and after January 1, 2000. After the P/FDS Waiver agreement has been signed by the county, it should be forwarded to the appropriate Regional Program Manager to obtain department approval. Once signed by the

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Appropriate Regional Mental Retardation Program Office

county and the Department, the agreement will continue to be in force for the duration of the waiver period ending June 30, 2002. Services provided prior to the date the county signs this agreement are subject to the hold harmless clause as long as the county used the draft Supplemental Grant Agreement dated December 29, 1999 as a guideline for implementation during this period.

Any subsequent change in the P/FDS Waiver agreement will require the approval of the Deputy Secretary for Mental Retardation as a modification to Appendix A of the agreement – Supplemental Grant Conditions. This method of making modifications within Appendix A will avoid the need to enter into new agreements from year to year.

This grant agreement is not applicable to Medicaid home & community based waiver services established in other agreements between the county and the Department, including agreements for the provision of services provided under the Consolidated Waiver, HCFA # 0147.90, and the Infants, Toddlers and Families Medicaid Waiver, HCFA # 0324.

The Department will not allocate county administration funding to the county for the P/FDS Waiver until this supplemental grant agreement is signed by the appropriate county authority. County administration funding can be authorized effective to January 1, 2000 based on a signed Supplemental Grant Agreement by the end of Fiscal Year 1999/2000.