


STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

25 SIGOURNEY STREET • HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-5033

MEMORANDUM

TO: Area Agency on Aging Directors

FROM:  Pamela Giannini, Director, Bureau of Aging, Community & Social Work Services

DATE: January 26, 2010

SUBJECT: Statewide Respite Care Program changes

Effective close of business today (4:30, January 26, 2010), services for recertified clients for SFY '10 for the Connecticut Statewide Respite Care Program (CSRCP) shall be capped at the care plan funding levels received in SFY '09. Clients who received services last year (SFY '09) should remain eligible for recertification this year (SFY '10) but they should receive no more services than they received last year. This action is being taken in an effort to achieve cost savings.

Clients who will be impacted by this change in SFY '10 fall into the following categories:

- Those who have completed a care plan in SFY'10 but have not accessed the full amount of services available at the SFY'09 level and are eligible for more services. *These clients can only expand the amount of services received up to their SFY'09 cap;*
- Those for whom a care plan has been set up, approved by the Care Manager, and services ordered. *If services have not begun, these care plans must be scaled back to SFY'09 levels;*
- Those who have been or may be recertified but do not have care plans set up and approved yet for SFY '10. *These care plans cannot exceed the SFY'09 levels.*

Clients who will not be impacted by this change in SFY'10 fall into the following categories:

- Those who have already received services and completed their care plans for SFY '10;
- Those who are currently receiving services in a designated, approved care plan for SFY '10. This refers to those who have ongoing services such as homemaker or adult day care services that they are receiving right now.

Please be advised that care plans designated for recertified clients in SFY'11 will all be funded at the same levels they were funded in SFY'09.

We understand the challenges that this policy presents for the Care Managers of the program as well as the caregivers and families. We appreciate all of your efforts to provide continued support to these families.

Please be aware that intake for all new applications to the CSRCP continue to remain closed. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

cc: Claudette Beaulieu, Deputy Commissioner
Steve Bartha, OPM
Patricia Clark, Alzheimer's Association
Nancy Leonard, Alzheimer's Association
Margaret Gerundo-Murkette, DSS
Cynthia Grant, DSS