

OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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OTDA-4037EL (Rev. 11/98)

Transmittal No: 99 LCM-28

Date: September 27, 1999

Division: Temporary Assistance

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Domestic Violence Allocations: July 1999 - June 2001

ATTACHMENTS: Domestic Violence Allocations (available on line)

I. Introduction

The purpose of this LCM is to advise districts of their Domestic Violence allocations to support the Family Violence Option (FVO) - (Attachment I).

The Welfare Reform Act of 1997 established the availability of TANF block grant funds for the purpose of implementing the FVO. The intent of the FVO is to address the safety needs of domestic violence (DV) victims and their children by identifying domestic violence and providing waivers of specific temporary assistance (TA) requirements. Waivers are granted when compliance with such requirements would place the individual and/or individual's children at greater risk of harm or make it more difficult to escape from abuse.

The FVO requires universal screening of all TA applicants and recipients using the screening form provided by the Department. Individuals who screen positive for DV are referred to a DV liaison. The DV liaison is responsible for: assessing the credibility of the assertion of DV; informing victims of the availability of services

and making referrals; determining the extent to which DV is a barrier to compliance with TA requirements; assessing the need for waivers; granting waivers; and reassessing circumstances and modifying, terminating or extending waivers as needed.

II. Allocations

Districts must use these allocations to support the FVO and the DV assessment process. The funding is mainly provided to support the DV liaison position(s). The DV liaison functions may be provided by one or more persons, may be full or part-time depending on the anticipated caseload and may be provided directly or contracted out. These allocations are separate from the funds that are set aside for State sponsored training for DV liaisons.

If funds are remaining after these functions have been supported, funding may be applied to DV services provided by approved DV service providers. Funds may not be used to supplant other DV funding or to reduce existing DV contracts. In March 1998, districts submitted funding plans as required in a "Dear Commissioner" letter dated February 12, 1998. These original plans remain in effect. Districts, who plan to use any of their allocations for DV services other than those included in their original plan, must submit a plan amendment.

III. Funding

The SFY 1998-99 state budget appropriated \$5 million in TANF funds to support direct costs incurred by local districts associated with DV screening and referral to counseling and related services, and for training paid for at the state level. The SFY 1999-00 state budget appropriated \$8 million for the same purpose. These funds are not available to supplant other funds or services available to districts from other funding streams or outside sources.

IV. Fiscal Implications

The allocations on Attachment I total \$12.4 million and are supported from the combined \$13 million referenced above. The allocations are for a two-year period from July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2001.

Since these Federal funds must be appropriated for use by New York State and operate on a one-year budget cycle, we cannot provide an absolute guarantee of funding beyond the dates authorized for any of the other special 100% TANF funded initiatives. Until the SFY 2000-2001 budget is in place, we only have authority to pay for services through 6/30/00 with claims due by 8/15/00. However, we fully expect that any unused amounts will again be re-appropriated in the SFY 2000-2001 budget making them available for another year.

V. Claiming Instructions

Local districts will use the following instructions to claim reimbursement for the DV liaison under the FVO of the Welfare Reform Act:

| The administrative costs associated with the DV liaison should be reported as F17 function code expenditures and claimed on the Schedule D-17 "Distribution of Allocated Costs to Other Reimbursable Programs" (DSS-3274). The costs from the Schedule D-17 are to be brought forward to a DSS-3922 form entitled, "Financial Summary for Special Projects" labeled "DV Liaison" and reported on the appropriate lines. For individuals who are otherwise eligible for TANF funding, the costs will be reported in the Total column and claimed at 100% Federal Share.

| For individuals who are ineligible for TANF, their costs should also be reported in the Total column and claimed at 50% State share and 50% Local share. Costs should be allocated between TANF and non-TANF programs on the basis of case counts. Reimbursement is available up to the limit of the allocations with these costs being outside the district administrative cost cap.

| Local district staff that work on DV liaison functions on a part-time basis must complete a time study to allocate their costs between the DV liaison staff and the other function.

If you have any questions concerning this release, please contact your Regional Team representative.

Patricia A. Stevens
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Temporary Assistance

ATTACHMENT

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ALLOCATIONS

Social Services District	Allocation 7/99 - 6/01
New York State	\$12,400,000
New York City	\$6,706,066
Rest of State	\$5,693,934
Albany	\$101,914
Allegany	\$33,456
Broome	\$78,570
Cattaraugus	\$31,315
Cayuga	\$22,938
Chautauqua	\$181,958
Chemung	\$39,402
Chenango	\$20,048
Clinton	\$72,795
Columbia	\$23,293
Cortland	\$23,575
Delaware	\$10,308
Dutchess	\$323,012
Erie	\$1,174,472
Essex	\$10,586
Franklin	\$57,693
Fulton	\$35,703
Genesee	\$23,150
Greene	\$22,342
Hamilton	\$10,027
Herkimer	\$10,638
Jefferson	\$151,246
Lewis	\$10,286
Livingston	\$23,047
Madison	\$33,718
Monroe	\$418,977
Montgomery	\$10,556
Nassau	\$127,808
Niagara	\$246,680
Oneida	\$392,580
Onondaga	\$196,266
Ontario	\$56,113
Orange	\$114,061
Orleans	\$20,417
Oswego	\$41,283
Otsego	\$10,255
Putnam	\$10,170
Rensselaer	\$46,866
Rockland	\$45,325
Saratoga	\$10,322
Schenectady	\$167,938
Schoharie	\$10,219
Schuyler	\$34,900
Seneca	\$30,817
St. Lawrence	\$53,206

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ALLOCATIONS

Social Services District	Allocation 7/99 - 6/01
Steuben	\$49,133
Suffolk	\$510,313
Sullivan	\$26,951
Tioga	\$21,426
Tompkins	\$25,437
Ulster	\$81,421
Warren	\$10,389
Washington	\$23,908
Wayne	\$28,600
Westchester	\$294,416
Wyoming	\$41,539
Yates	\$10,151