



Memorandum

To: All Adult Care Facility (ACF) & Adult Foster Home Operators; Ohio Adult Care Facility Association; Ohio Association of Adult Caregivers

Cc: Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities; Ohio Department of Aging; Ohio Department of Job & Family Services; Social Security Administration

From: Ellie Jazi, LISW-S
Residential State Supplement Administrator

Date: 11/16/2012

Re: RSS Consumers & Representative Payees

The Residential State Supplement (RSS) Program provides eligible consumers financial assistance to pay for accommodations, supervision, and personal care services at approved community residences, i.e., Adult Group, Family, and Foster Homes. A criterion to participate in the program is to receive Social Security, SSI and/or SSDI benefits. Many consumers enrolled in RSS have been deemed legally incompetent and have difficulty managing their finances oftentimes due to mental and/or physical disabilities. Representative payees assist those consumers with administering funds appropriately according to their needs.

Since the Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) began administering RSS, I have been working with consumers, ACF operators, and community providers to arrange third-party payees as needed. When consumers have representative payees for Social Security, SSI and/or SSDI benefits, they are encouraged to also utilize those services for RSS payments. Having access to representative payees prevents consumers from having their RSS benefits disrupted, e.g. when moving to another ACF, and also helps ensure that operators receive the correct allowable fee for the services they provide.

If you have residents who are enrolled in the RSS Program and have a representative payee for their Social Security, SSI and/or SSDI income, please contact me about how to arrange payee services for their RSS benefits. This ensures that residents will have their funds administered appropriately, while protecting ACF operators from allegations of misusing funds. I can provide information regarding representative payee agencies for RSS consumers as needed.

Please contact me if you have any questions via email at ellie.jazi@mh.ohio.gov or call toll-free at 1-855-RSS-ODMH [777-6364]. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ellie Jazi, LISW-S
Residential State Supplement (RSS) Administrator

Establishing mental health as a cornerstone of overall health

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