

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

### **Elderly and Disabled Waiver (E&D) Rate Increase and Incentive Program**

Effective for the Elderly and Disabled Waiver on July 1, 2014 and after, and subject to payment at fee-for-service rates, the Department, in response to a joint federal and state initiative to increase access to care, is proposing an increase in rates for Enhanced Case Management, Alternative Living Services, and Personal Support Services and to implement a provider quality incentive fee program.

The rate increase for Personal Support Services and Alternative Living Services is funded through the third quarter of SFY 2016 via the Balancing Incentives Payment Program in which Georgia receives an enhanced match to augment home and community based services. There is no state impact until fourth quarter SFY 2016. The rate increase for Enhanced Case Management is funded through a legislative appropriation approved in the Governor's budget in May 2014.

The following rates are proposed to change:

<b>Service</b>	<b>Rate Prior to 7/1/14</b>	<b>Rate Post 7/1/14</b>
<b>Enhanced Case Management</b>	\$175.00 per month	\$183.75 per month
<b>Personal Support Service</b>	\$9.47 per unit	\$ 9.94 per unit
<b>Personal Support Service Extended</b>	\$8.41 per unit	\$ 8.83 per unit
<b>Alternative Living Services</b>	\$35.04 per day	\$36.79 per day

Additionally, the Department intends to implement a tiered add-on provider quality incentive payment of up to 3% for outcomes achieved by eligible enhanced case management agencies. This quality incentive will be added to the enhanced case management monthly unit rate for all qualified providers beginning April 1, 2014. The quality incentive is earned by a combination of baseline quality measures, program measures, and consumer measures.

This change is estimated to increase expenditures as follows:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>State Funds</u>
Aged, Blind, and Disabled, SFY 2014	\$ 1,011,764	\$ 344,400
Aged, Blind, and Disabled, SFY 2015	\$ 1,011,764	\$ 344,400
Aged, Blind, and Disabled, SFY 2016	\$ 4,367,779	\$1,143,294
Aged, Blind, and Disabled, SFY 2017	\$14,435,825	\$4,917,577

This public notice is available for review at each county Division of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **June 19, 2014 at 10:00am**, at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th

Floor Board Room. This item will be one of several waiver public notices up for comment during that hearing. Each public notice will have its own segment of the hearing agenda. Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479. Citizens wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **June 26, 2014**, to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 1966, Atlanta, Georgia 30301.

Comments submitted will be available for review by the public at the Department of Community Health, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in Room 4074, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the **July 10, 2014**, Board meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed changes at the Board meeting to be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th Floor Board Room.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 12<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE 2014**  
**Clyde L. Reese III, Esq., Commissioner**