AGING PROGRAM DIRECTIVE

SUBJECT: 2016 DOMICILIARY CARE PAYMENT TO PROVIDER

TO: EXECUTIVE STAFF
    CAO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS
    PA COUNCIL ON AGING
    DEPUTY SECRETARY OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH, DHS
    DEPUTY SECRETARY OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMS, DHS
    DEPUTY SECRETARY OFFICE OF INCOME MAINTENANCE, DHS
    DEPUTY SECRETARY OFFICE OF LONG TERM LIVING, DHS

FROM: Teresa Osborne
      Secretary
      Pennsylvania Department of Aging

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Aging Program Directive is to set forth policy and procedure regarding the dollar amount which Domiciliary Care consumers shall pay to their home provider monthly, and the amount to be retained by the consumer, as a personal needs allowance.

BACKGROUND: For calendar year 2016, the total monthly SSI benefit for Domiciliary Care consumers will continue to be $1,167.30 for an individual and $2,047.40 for a couple. This decision is based on the Social Security Administration’s determination that there will not be a federal Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increase for 2016.

Per regulation PA Code Title 6 Aging, Chapter 21, Section 21.41(6), the Department of Aging is responsible for determining the monthly dollar amount that consumers will pay to Domiciliary Care home providers. To eliminate a bias for private pay consumers by providers, private pay consumers, regardless of income or resources, pay the same monthly rate as do the consumers who are SSI recipients. The difference between what
the consumer receives and the amount he or she pays the provider is the consumer's personal needs allowance.

CONTENT:

The Department has determined there will be no change to the Domiciliary Care payment rates for 2016. This decision is based on the Social Security Administration’s announcement that there will be no Social Security COLA in 2016.

Domiciliary Care consumers shall pay their provider $978.00 per month and retain the balance of at least $189.30 as a personal needs allowance. Domiciliary Care couples shall pay their provider $1,720.00 per month and retain at least $327.40 as their personal needs allowance.

In completing the Consumer/Provider Agreement, which is the document signed by both the consumer and provider indicating their respective responsibilities, the amount of $978.00 for an individual and $1,720.00 for a couple shall be entered in the blank space of the agreement for the monthly rate. These amounts are to be used for all Domiciliary Care Consumer/Provider Agreements that are effective on or after January 1, 2016.

If and when a change occurs with the Federal SSI payments or State Supplement Domiciliary Care payment, the above figures will be revised.