Subject: 2018 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

Purpose: The purpose of this Aging Program Directive is to adjust 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 2018, the total monthly SSI benefit for Domiciliary Care consumers receiving SSI will be increased by $15.00 from $1169.30 to $1,184.30 for an individual, and will increase by $22.00 from $2,050.40 to $2,072.40 for a couple. This latest SSI increase is the result of the Federal Cost of Living Adjustment (2.0%) which becomes effective January 1, 2018.

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 Domiciliary Care 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.

Directives:

The Department has determined that the $15.00 increase for an individual shall be split between the provider and the consumer. The provider will receive a $10.00 increase and the consumer will receive a $5.00 increase. For couples, the $22.00 monthly increase will also be split between the provider and consumer. The provider will receive an $11.00 increase and the couple will receive an $11.00 increase.

Effective January 1, 2018, Domiciliary Care consumers will pay their Domiciliary Care provider $989.00 per month and retain the balance of at least $195.30 as a personal needs allowance. Domiciliary Care couples will pay their provider $1,732.00 per month and retain at least $340.40, as their personal needs allowance.

Please complete a new Consumer/Provider Agreement effective January 1, 2018. Enter the monthly amount of $989.00 for an individual and $1,732.00 for a couple. These amounts are to be used for all Domiciliary Care Consumer/Provider Agreements that are effective on or after January 1, 2018.

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