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 | INFORMATIONAL LETTER |
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TRANSMITTAL: 95 INF-23

TO: Commissioners of
 Social Services

DIVISION: Economic
 Security &
 Health and Long
 Term Care

DATE: July 12, 1995

SUBJECT: Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental
 Disabilities (OMRDD) Individual Support Services
 (ISS) Program

SUGGESTED

DISTRIBUTION: Income Maintenance Directors
 Food Stamp Directors
 Medical Assistance Directors
 CAP Coordinator
 Social Services Directors
 Staff Development Coordinators

CONTACT PERSON: 1-800-343-8859
 Economic Security: Charles Giambalvo, extension
 4-9327 (AV1810)
 Food Stamps: Your Food Stamp Representative,
 extension 4-9225
 Health and Long Term Care: Ann Clearwater,
 extension 3-5457 (89A728)

ATTACHMENTS: None

FILING REFERENCES

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
		352.16(a)			MARG
		387.11(c)			Page 153
					FSSB
					XII-A
					XII-G-2-G-4

The purpose of this INF is to provide social services districts (SSDs) with:

- o information about the Individualized Support Services (ISS) program funded and operated by the New York State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD); and
- o guidelines for budgeting ISS funds received by PA, MA and FS applicants/recipients under current policy and regulations.

The OMRDD has developed the ISS program to enable qualified developmentally disabled persons to move from group or community homes to independent living environments. To accomplish this, OMRDD is making payments to individuals to help meet expenses of independent living.

ISS funds specific supports and services required by individuals to help them function in society on a level comparable to that of individuals who do not have developmental or physical disabilities. Supports and services funded through ISS include health care, staff assistance, social services, case management, housing and transportation.

ISS funding is only provided when there is no other source of funds available to pay for the support services.

ISS funds provided to public assistance (PA) or medical assistance (MA) A/Rs are excluded under 18 NYCRR 352.16(a) when calculating a PA budget and under page 153 of the Medical Assistance Reference Guide (MARG) when calculating an MA budget.

If ISS funds are used to obtain an apartment, SSD's may not duplicate the amount of money paid to the landlord for rent, security deposit or shelter related costs. If ISS funds reduce the A/R's actual shelter liability, the PA standard of need should be adjusted accordingly. ISS funds used to pay the difference between the local shelter maximum and the actual rent would not be budgeted for public assistance.

Individual Support Services (ISS) funds paid directly to an individual are counted as income for food stamps. However, if the payment of expenses is made directly to the provider the funds can be excluded as a vendor payment.

John C. Fredericks
Division of Economic Security

Richard Cody
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Health and Long
Term Care