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INFORMATIONAL LETTER

TRANSMITTAL: 96 INF-21

TO: Commissioners of  
 Social Services

DIVISION: Health and  
 Long Term Care

DATE: June 6, 1996

SUBJECT: Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for Persons  
 with Traumatic Brain Injuries (HCBS/TBI Waiver)

SUGGESTED

DISTRIBUTION: Medical Assistance Staff  
 Public Assistance Staff  
 Services Staff  
 Food Stamp Staff  
 Transportation Unit Staff  
 Staff Development Coordinators

CONTACT PERSON: Anne Church, Bureau of Long Term Care,  
 1-800-343-8859, extension 4-9248, User ID 73U015

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment I: List of Regional Resource Development  
 Specialists (not available on-line)

Attachment II: List of Approved HCBS/TBI Waiver  
 Providers, by New York State Department of Health  
 Region (not available on-line)

FILING REFERENCES

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
					95 LCM-70 96 LCM-37

The purposes of this letter are to:

1. transmit two resource lists that may be useful to your staff when involved in activities related to the Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for Persons with Traumatic Brain Injuries (HCBS/TBI Waiver); and
2. provide some general information about the New York State Department of Health (DOH) Supplemental Rental Subsidy and Housing Supports Funding for individuals participating in this waiver.

List of Regional Resource Development Specialists

The DOH has contracted with twelve agencies for the services of Regional Resource Development Specialists (RRDSs) in each agency. These individuals are responsible for assisting family members and potential waiver participants in contacting waiver providers by providing lists of approved providers and information about the waiver services available from each approved provider. RRDSs facilitate the selection of, and referral to, Service Coordinators for potential waiver participants. RRDSs are also responsible for initial review and approval of each waiver participant's Service Plan.

Attachment I identifies the RRDSs in each of the twelve agencies and the counties they serve. This list replaces Attachment III in 95 LCM-70.

List of Approved HCBS/TBI Waiver Providers, by DOH Region

Attachment II identifies the names and addresses of approved waiver providers in each of the seven DOH designated regions of the state, as of April 1, 1996. Attachment II also specifies the waiver services that each provider is approved to provide. The full names of the waiver services abbreviated in the listing can be found immediately after the cover page of the Attachment.

The DOH typically updates its compilation of approved HCBS/TBI Waiver Providers monthly to reflect new providers and additional waiver services available from existing providers. The updated compilation is then distributed to all approved providers and to the RRDSs.

We have no plans to issue updated compilations to you on a monthly basis. To obtain information about new providers or new waiver services available from existing providers in your county or to verify continued availability of a waiver service from a certain provider, you can contact the appropriate RRDS. To verify continued availability of a waiver service from a particular provider, you can also contact the person whose name appears for that provider on Attachment II.

The DOH TBI Supplemental Rental Subsidy and Housing Supports Funding for Individuals Participating in the HCBS/TBI Waiver

The program objectives of the DOH TBI Supplemental Rental Subsidy and Housing Supports Funding are to:

1. assist eligible individuals who need supplemental funding in order to obtain safe, accessible housing;
2. create more independent housing opportunities for individuals with TBIs; and
3. assure adherence to mandates of the 1988 Federal Fair Housing amendments to the Civil Rights Act and related statutes to provide individuals with disabilities access to the housing of their choice.

The DOH TBI Supplemental Rental Subsidy and Housing Supports is a state funding stream for individuals with TBIs. This funding stream is applicable statewide and is a limited resource available on a first come, first served basis.

Individuals who are eligible for supplemental rental subsidies and housing supports must be participants in the HCBS/TBI Waiver who have been assessed as financially unable to obtain and maintain fair market value housing in the community without supplemental subsidies. These individuals are required to disclose all financial resources and must apply for all available public housing monies, including HUD Section 8 rental subsidies. They must contribute 1/3 of their income towards fair market value rent. The DOH pays the remainder of the rental cost as a rental subsidy. The monthly check for rental subsidies is issued directly to the landlord, not to the individual.

Housing supports are defined as those items needed by an individual in order to occupy a residence including heat, lights, furniture, appliances, and sundry basic household items. Monies for housing supports are reimburseable costs that require receipts. These monies go to the individual's service coordinator. Housing support monies are not available for construction or capital projects.

For further information about the DOH TBI Supplemental Rental Subsidy and Housing Supports Funding, you may contact Barbara Delaney, New York State Department of Health, at (518) 271-2723.

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Richard T. Cody  
Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Health and Long Term Care