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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF LONG TERM SUPPORTS AND SERVICES
BUREAU OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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Date: December 29, 2022

To: AA Benefits Specialists, AA Business Managers, AA Service Coordination Supervisors, BDS Liaisons, and NH Guardianship Agencies

From: Jennifer Doig and Melissa Morin
NH Bureau of Developmental Services (BDS)

Re: **2023 Standard of Need and Income Changes**

The Division of Economic and Housing Stability (DEHS), Bureau of Family Assistance (BFA) has announced there is an 8.7% increase for 2023 in Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits, and the Standard of Need (SON) for individuals receiving financial assistance under New Hampshire's Adult Assistance categories. SSA/SSI benefit levels will increase from \$841 to **\$914** per month.

The SON levels for individuals eligible for Medicaid under Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled (APTD), Old Age Assistance (OAA), and Aid to the Needy Blind (ANB) are as follows:

For an individual in independent living;

- **\$928 per month** formerly \$855

For an individual living in an He-M 1001 Certified Staffed Residence, He-M 521 Certified Family Setting, or He-M 525 Certified Family Setting with a residential service;

- **\$990 per month** formerly \$917

For an individual living in an He-M 1001 Certified Enhanced Family Care residence, or an He-M 525 Certified Enhanced Family Care residence.

- **\$1,108 per month** formerly \$1,035

For Acquired Brain Disorder (ABD) Waiver participants only the SON applies for those who reside in homes owned and/or operated by providers unrelated to the individual by ancestry, marriage, or other legal arrangement; for ABD Waiver participants who live independently, or with their families, the special income limit of 300% of SSI, which is **\$2,742** formerly \$2,523, applies.

With the exception of the paragraph above, individuals with NET income greater than the SON for their living situation may have a Cost of Care payment; work with BFA to make adjustments as needed.

BDS will apply the \$73/month increase to the Residential Fees. **Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) for individuals receiving BDS Waiver Services will remain unchanged at \$195/month.**

Residential fees will be increased as listed below:

- **\$795** formerly \$722, for He-M 1001 Certified Staffed Residences, He-M 521 Certified Family Setting; or He-M 525 Certified Family Setting with a residential service;
- **\$913** formerly \$840, for individuals in He-M 1001 Certified Enhanced Family Care Residences or He-M 525 Certified Enhanced Family Care residences.

The Nursing Facility (NF) Cap, used for Medicaid financial eligibility determinations has increased to **\$2,742** from \$2,523 per month; GROSS income must be equal to or less than **\$2,742/month**. Individuals with monthly income in excess of \$2,742 may be able to “Spend Down” to the Protected Income Limit (PIL) to gain Medicaid eligibility; the PIL has increased from \$591 per month to **\$888** per month.

The **Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)** amount, used during initial APTD eligibility determinations, has increased to **\$1,470** from \$1,350 per month.

A reminder that effective January 1, 2012, HCBS Waiver participants who have a Medicaid and Medicare Part D prescription plans do not have medication co-pays for Part D covered medications.

The **Medicare Part B** standard monthly premium cost:

- Decreases to **\$164.90** from \$170.10 for:
 - new enrollees in Part B in 2023;
 - people who do not have their Part B premiums deducted from Social Security benefits, which includes recipients currently eligible for State “buy-in” of their Part B premium;
 - those individuals who are not collecting Social Security benefits;
 - individuals with annual income above \$97,000; and
 - dual-eligible, which are people eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare.

If you have questions, you may contact Melissa Morin (603-271-5019) at the Bureau of Developmental Services.