

Department of County Human Services



Aging, Disability & Veterans Services Division

To: District Center Case Managers, Supervisors and Managers

From: Loriann McNeill, Multnomah County Family Caregiver Support Program

RE: Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP) Update regarding relief fund requests as of July 01, 2016

Unpaid family caregivers requesting relief funds must meet the following requirements:

1. Caregiver eligibility:

- Caregiver of a person age 60 years of age or older, the caregiver can be an adult of any age.
- Caregiver of a child age 18 years or younger and the caregiver is a grandparent or relative caregiver age 55 or older and the child lives with the caregiver.
- Caregiver of an adult or child with disabilities of any age where the caregiver is a grandparent or other relative caregiver age 55 or older and the adult or child lives with the caregiver.

- 2. Financial criteria:** All unpaid family caregivers requesting relief funds must have a household income of 300% or less of the federal poverty level (including caregivers caring for people with Alzheimer's/Dementia or care recipients receiving hospice or palliative care.)

Household income includes the family caregiver's household, including dependents. Medical related expenses, including insurance premiums, can be deducted from the household income in determining eligibility.

- 3. Care Need Requirements:** Care recipients must need substantial assistance for at least **two** Activities of Daily Living (ADLS). Activities of Daily living include: eating, dressing, grooming, bathing, personal hygiene, mobility (ambulation and transfer), elimination (toileting, bowel and bladder management), and behavior.

4. Family caregivers caring for someone with moderate to advanced dementia

Grants are available once a year for family caregivers caring for a person with moderate to advanced dementia who requires 24/7 care (i.e. the person in care cannot be left alone due to safety issues and requires cueing for ADLs). To be eligible for a relief grant the family caregiver household must have an income of 300% or less of federal poverty. There is no maximum number of grants per lifetime for these family caregivers.

Two grant maximum:

Due to fiscal constraints, unpaid family caregivers are limited to TWO grants per lifetime (*except for those caring for a person with moderate to advanced Alzheimer's or another dementia, who are eligible for one grant per fiscal year).

Grandparents/elder relatives raising relative children are eligible for TWO grants per lifetime if the family caregiver meets the financial criteria for assistance. Priority is given to grandparents who are caring for a child with special needs including physical, mental, developmental, and behavior health issues. Case Managers will need to note any special needs of the children on the intake form. Grandparents raising grandchildren without special needs will be considered for relief grants as the budget allows. According to Federal guidelines Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or relative foster care payments are not counted as income for grandparent/relative clients.

Grant Timelines: Grants are valid for 6 months. Any expenses incurred outside of the valid grant dates are the responsibility of the client.

Grants and Dollar Amounts:

- 1. Unpaid family caregivers caring for a person age 60 or over, or of any age if the person has Alzheimer's or a related dementia are who meet all criteria are eligible grant funds for up to ***\$600**.** The grant covers in-home care, Adult Day Programs, temporary respite in a facility, self care activities for the family caregiver, and medical equipment not covered by Medicare. Multnomah County can only pay providers who are licensed, bonded and insured and who agree to invoice Multnomah County or take credit card payments over the phone. For durable medical equipment Multnomah County Market Place will be the preferred vendor.
- 2. Grandparents and elder relatives age 55 and over raising grandchildren are eligible for up to ***\$200 per child**.** The grant covers

after-school activities, summer camps, school clothing, or self care activities for the grandparent.

*Care plans need to reflect the actual amount the client intends to use, which may be less than maximum amount.

If you have any questions please let me know.

Thank you,

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