**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 October 1, 2018.

1. **FCSP GRANT UPDATE as of October 1, 2018**

 **FCSP clients who are caring for an elder age 60 and older, or of any** **age with Alzheimer’s and related disorders, who meet eligibility guidelines for relief funds have a choice of ONE of the following two grants:**

1. **Respite grant- maximum $1000.00-**provided by licensed, bonded and insured in home care agencies, Adult Day Programs, facility respite,
2. **Supplemental Services only- maximum $300 –**Durable medical equipment, self care activities for the family caregiver, incontinence supplies, professional housekeeping, etc
3. **Combination grant-**Maximum $1000. A maximum of $300 can be used for supplemental services and a maximum of $700 can be used for respite services.
4. **Grant for caregivers caring for a person who is unable to access respite services because of a language barrier- $1,000 maximum available for approved supplemental services.**

# Grant timeline:

# There are four grant periods options for fiscal year FY19. A caregiver can have one grant during the fiscal year.

# July 1, 2018-September 30, 2018

# October 1, 2018-December 31, 2018

# January 1, 2019-March 31, 2019

# April 1, 2019- June 30, 2019.

# Funds must be used by the end of the grant period the client has chosen. If there is a circumstance that requires a change in the grant dates please contact the Family Caregiver Support Program Coordinator at 503.988.8210 or by email at family.caregiver@multco.us to discuss an accommodation.

Family caregivers/informal caregivers requesting relief funds must meet the following requirements:

# Caregiver eligibility:

* + Caregiver of a person age 60 years of age or older. The caregiver can be an adult of any age.
	+ Grandparents/Elder Relatives age 55 and over, raising grandchildren/relative children age 18 or younger.
	+ Older Relatives, including parents, age 55 and over providing care to adults age 18- 59 with a disability.
	+ Must reside in Multnomah County
	+ Caregiver must be unpaid
	+ The person in care cannot be receiving Medicaid Services (in-home or facility care) if respite or supplemental services funds are requested. Caregivers caring for a person receiving Medicaid medical coverage, or SNAP benefits, are eligible to request respite or supplemental services funds.
	+ CASE MANAGEMENT Services for Family Caregivers. All caregivers living in Multnomah County are eligible for case management services. There are no income guidelines for case management only services. Caregivers who are caring for a person who is receiving Medicaid services are also eligible for FCSP case management only services.
	+ For caregivers requesting respite or supplemental service funds the care recipient needs to require a minimum of two Activities of Daily Living (ADLS) that require substantial assistance.
	+ Caregiver household income after medical expenses is 300% or less of the Federal Poverty Level.
	+ **Eligibility for caregivers caring for a person with Alzheimer’s/another dementia eligibility:**
1. A minimum of two ADLs requiring substantial assistance

**OR**

b. Due to cognitive impairment the care recipient requires substantial assistance for cueing by the caregiver in order for ADLs needs to be completed; and/or due to cognitive impairment care recipient experiences safety issues (i.e. wandering; getting lost; puts themselves at risk due to cognitive impairment, etc.)

# Maximum grants:

Due to budget constraints a family caregiver, caring for an elder is eligible for up to 2 grants per care recipient, per life time. An elder relative caring for a child or an adult with a disability is eligible for 3 grants per life time. **Caregivers caring for a person with Alzheimer’s or an advanced dementia are allowed unlimited grants per lifetime-but are limited to one grant per fiscal year.**

# Counseling grants for unpaid family caregivers.

# Counseling grant eligibility:

**Family Caregivers need to be an open FCSP case management client. There is no income eligibility for the family caregiver and no ADL requirements of the care recipient.**

**If a family caregiver has access to counseling services through Medicare, or their health insurance, the family caregiver is encouraged to use their insurance first. Counselors with an LCSW or a psychologist may be able to bill these insurances.**

**Counseling grant -Maximum $300:** Counseling must be provided by a licensed and insured counselor or social worker. Family Caregiver clients may choose their own counselor but the counselor must be willing to invoice Multnomah County Family Caregiver Support Program for their services. A list of counselors/social workers who work with family caregivers and are set up to invoice Multnomah County can be found at: <https://multco.us/ads/cs-family-caregiver-support-program>

# Grandparents/Elder Relatives age 55 and over, Raising Grandchildren/Relative Children under the age of 18.

**Relief Grant-$200 per child**. The grant can be used to pay for after school activities, childcare provided by licensed and insured agencies, summer camps, school clothing, adaptive equipment for the child with special needs, and/or self care activities for the grandparent/elder relative client (i.e. parks and recreation programs, massage, etc)

# Older Relatives, including parents, age 55 and over providing care to adults age 18- 59 with a disability.

**Relief Grant-$200 per care recipient.** The grant can be used for respite, community activities for the care recipient, adaptive equipment, and/or self care activities for the elder relative.

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| **Annual 2018 300% of Poverty Guidelines for the****48 Contiguous States** |
| **Family Size** | **Annual300%** | **Monthly** |
| **1** | 36,420 | $3,035 |
| **2** | 49,380 | 4,115 |
| **3** | 62,340 | 5,195 |
| **4** | 75,300 | 6,275 |
| **5** | 88,260 | 7,355 |
| **6** | 101,220 | 8,435 |
| **7** | 114,180 | 9,515 |

The family size is the family caregiver’s household. This includes the family caregiver, spouse and their dependents. All medical expenses can be deducted-insurance premiums, co-pays, prescription costs. If the family caregiver is paying for medical expenses for the person they are caring for those costs can also be deducted.