



Ohio Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities

Ted Strickland, Governor

John L. Martin, Director

October 1, 2008

To: County Board of MR/DD Superintendents, Business Managers, Waiver and SSA Contacts
MRDD Stakeholder Leadership

From: Patrick Stephan, Deputy Director, Medicaid Development and Administration

Subject: Level I Waiver Allocations for 4th Quarter of CY2008 (4Q08)

As the final quarter of CY2008 begins, ODMRDD must inform counties that current allocation requests for Level I waivers have exceeded available capacity. The IO Waiver currently has adequate capacity and allocation letters are in process at this time. In order to manage this shortage, ODMRDD has completed and submitted a waiver amendment requesting an increase to Level I capacity. This amendment requests capacity increases for the current year, and for increases in the remaining years of the current Level I waiver cycle. We are asking that this amendment be made effective October 1, 2008 if possible.

Therefore, the current situation requires a short-term modification to our process regarding Level I allocations:

- 1) ODMRDD will begin to allocate Level I regular capacity allocations this week.
- 2) Given the present circumstances, effective today, replacement allocation requests will be placed on hold until additional capacity becomes available. The criteria for replacement requests previously established and communicated to the field remains in place:
 - a. Level I replacement requests made on or before 10/1/2008 for Level I disenrollments going back to 7/1/2007 will be processed as capacity becomes available.
 - b. Replacement requests for Level I waiver disenrollments made after 10/1/08 can be submitted for disenrollments within 90 days of the date of the disenrollment letter, per standard process and will be processed as capacity becomes available.
- 3) County Board requests for extensions beyond the prescribed deadlines cannot be granted, except at the discretion of ODMRDD due to unusual circumstances. Waiver applications are always due 90 days from the allocation, however Level I capacity allocated in mid-May 2008 had a one-time deadline extension until 10/17/08. The 10/17/08 deadline is still in place. After 10/17/2008, any retracted Level I waivers will be allocated first to address unfulfilled regular allocation requests, and then to address replacement requests in the order they were received.

I completely understand your concerns regarding this shortcoming in Level I capacity; given recent budgetary issues, the economy, and other factors we clearly recognize the need to have adequate capacity in order to serve people effectively. It is with that understanding and concern we have worked diligently to mitigate this situation as soon as possible. As soon as we have additional information regarding the waiver amendment/availability of increased waiver capacity, it will be shared with the MRDD field.

Questions regarding this communication may be emailed to: waivercapacity-support@odmrdd.state.oh.us .

cc: Dan Ohler, OACBMRDD
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