The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit to you interim allocations being made under the Title IV-E Independent Living program for the period October 1, 1989 through September 30, 1990.

We have learned that the federal Title IV-E Independent Living program has been reauthorized for an additional three years with an increased federal commitment in each year. We have been advised that NYS's allotment for the 1990 program year will be $8,275,682, slightly more than the amount received in past years. We will, however, need to prepare an application for the federal funds which will further delay final allocations to the local districts. In any event, we can extend some stability to the local districts through an allocation of the currently available remaining federal funds. It is anticipated that formal notification of the new 1990 funding will be available early in the year and that final allocations can be made shortly after that time. Districts should anticipate approximately the same amount of funds available to them as last year, except for changes resulting from either an increase or a decrease in independent living population.

The methodology for determining the amounts is similar to that employed in previous years; that is, a district's portion of funds is determined in accordance with the district's proportion of the state's total Independent Living population. An adjustment in the way we determine district populations is being made to include the number of DFY custody youth in voluntary agencies for whom districts are fiscally responsible. A separate
allocation is also being made directly to DFY for services for its population in IV-E eligible facilities. When we receive formal notification of the new federal allotment and determine any programmatic or fiscal changes, additional federal funds will be allocated according to the same methodology.

In a related matter, my correspondence to you which approved your Independent Living Action plans has resulted in some confusion regarding the reimbursement mechanisms for Independent Living services. As you know, the federal Title IV-E Independent Living funds has allowed for 100% reimbursement for a district's independent living claims up to their allocation. Any claims for services above the allocation, or for services to youth under the age of 16, would be reimbursed by the state at 50% with the other 50% being locally borne costs.

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Joseph Semidei
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Family
and Children Services