Transmittal No:  90 LCM-95

Date:  July 6, 1990

Division:  Family & Childrens Services

TO:       Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT:  1989-1990 Title IV-E Independent Living Allocation

ATTACHMENTS:  Final Independent Living Allocations (not available on-line)

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit to local districts the final Title IV-E Independent Living allocations for the period 10/01/89 through 09/30/90. The listed allocations are not in addition to the interim allocations which you received in February, but rather include the amount of your interim allocation.

As previously outlined in 90-LCM-30, the methodology for determining allocations is based on a district's proportion of the statewide population of eligible youth. District population figures were increased by the addition of an average number of DFY - custody youth in voluntary agencies for which the district would be fiscally responsible.

All claims for reimbursement of Independent Living expenditures prior to 09/30/90 must be submitted to the Bureau of Local Financial Operations by November 30, 1990.

As in previous years, independent living expenditures for youth under the age of 16 or over the county allocation are eligible for 50% state reimbursement. Due to the absence of any roll-over funds such as was the case last year, the Department will be unable to entertain any requests for additional funds over the attached allocations. Should there be uneven expenditure of district allocations statewide, however, we plan on a re-allocation of unspent funds to districts at the close of the claiming period in November, 1990.
Any use of federal Independent Living initiative funds for the purchase of equipment having a unit cost in excess of $5,000 now requires prior federal approval. Requests for approval of such expenditures should be submitted to my office to the attention of Jayne Stillwell, with a copy to the appropriate Regional Office. As in the past, any EDP-related expenditure (hardware, software, programming services, etc.), regardless of the amount, should be submitted to the Local District Proposal Review section of the Division of ITM for approval.

As you are probably aware, the Title IV-E Independent Living Initiatives program was re-authorized by Congressional passage of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989 for the federal fiscal years 1990 through 1992. This allows for federal participation effectively through September of 1993. However, there remains the requirement for an annual federal appropriation to cover the costs of the program so that any increases in New York State's allotment will be dependent on yearly Congressional action.

Beginning with the 1990 - 1991 program year, the federal government is requiring that states provide a 50% match on a portion of their allotments. Preliminary analysis indicates that New York State and/or its counties, will need to spend nearly $1.0 M of state/local funds next year to secure the same level of federal funding available to us this year. Additional state/local match would be required (up to $2.4 M), if the federal national allotment increases to the maximum $60.0 M as allowed by the reauthorization. We are looking at various methods for accomplishing this, including instituting a local match requirement beginning in January, 1991. We will advise you of the determinations in this regard.

We are also advising you at this time that this Department is continuing to support the development and operation of the regional Independent Living Resource Centers. If your district has not yet used the services of the Center, please contact your Independent Living Resource Center or your Regional Office to secure help in determining the best use of these services.

If there are any questions, please contact the appropriate Regional Office of the Division of Family and Children Services.

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Joseph Semidei
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Family and Children Services