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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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Transmittal No: 90 LCM-167

Date: October 18, 1990

Division: Family & Children
Services

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: 1990-1991 Independent Living Program Allocations

ATTACHMENTS: District Independent Living percentages (not available on-line)

As you were previously advised in 90-LCM-95, the Title IV-E Independent Living Initiatives program was re-authorized by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989 for the federal fiscal years 1990 through 1992. While Congressional action is still required to appropriate specific amounts of funding, we anticipate that New York will receive an allotment at least equal to the amount received last year. Based on the framework presented in the authorizing legislation, we can provide limited information for district planning purposes.

Beginning with the 1990-1991 program year, the federal government is requiring that states provide a 50% match on the portion of their independent living funds in excess of the baseline federal allotment, which is, for New York State, \$7.5 M. If the national appropriation remains at the \$50.0 M level of the 1989-1990 year, New York State will be required to provide a \$750,000 match. If the national appropriation is increased to the maximum authorized, that is, \$60.0 M, the state will need to dedicate a \$2.5 M match to access the \$10.0 M additional allotment to New York State. We are currently planning to share this match requirement equally between the Department and local social services districts. This means that the local social services districts

will need to show a combined local match in the range of \$375,000 to \$1.25 M dependent on the federal allotment. Preliminary federal information advises that this match can be cash or in-kind contributions of services, equipment, or property, and may originate with a third party.

Each district will be assigned a dollar match requirement based on its proportion of the total statewide allocation. This proportion is derived from the number of children in care on July 31, 1990, aged 16 and above who either have a goal of independent living or are deemed to have a goal of independent living. It is important to realize that the Independent Living population has increased by nearly 600 children on a statewide basis. This means that, even if a district's population is the same as last year's, its proportion of the total population will decrease. As was done for last year's allocation, district population figures were augmented by the average number of DFY custody youth in voluntary agencies for which a district is responsible. The allocation methodology also includes DFY IV-E eligible facilities as a distinct entity with its own allocation in that youth in these facilities are also eligible for service provision under this funding.

The attached listing provides each district's 1990-1991 percentage that will be used to allocate funds and assign the required dollar match amount. Districts can project the range of dollar match which they will be required to secure, dependent on federal appropriation levels as well as anticipated 1990-1991 allocations. Unless there is significant program restructuring at the federal level, we anticipate that we will be able to allocate, at a minimum, an amount equal to last year's statewide allocation of \$8.5 M. We are planning on increasing the statewide allocation if the federal allotment is increased.

The following is provided as an example of how a district can utilize the information provided here to project program costs and funding for the 10/01/90-09/30/91 period.

If the District's Independent Living percentage is .38%, the minimum allocation that the district can expect would be computed by multiplying the .38% (or .0038) times \$8,500,000 to arrive at a \$32,300 minimum allocation. The match requirement would be computed similarly: .38% (or .0038) times both \$375,000 and \$1,250,000 to arrive at a range of \$1,425 to \$4,750 which would be required as a local match.

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While we recognize that this may not be an optimal planning mechanism, it is provided in the hopes that districts can use this information for local budget and program planning purposes. We share this early information with you in the hopes that you will continue to plan for effective delivery of services and possible enhancement of your Independent Living program in the upcoming program year. If you would like to discuss this information and its implications for your district, please contact your Regional Office representative.

Joseph Semidei
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Family
and Children Services