

County Board Community Assistance Project

When providers begin serving individuals newly enrolled on a waiver through the voluntary ICF conversion program or the Developmental Center (DC) downsizing effort, County Boards will see increased costs. On-going support is available to County Boards for individuals who are newly enrolled via a voluntary ICF conversion or DC downsizing during the current biennium (July 1, 2015-June 30, 2017). Below is more information about the assistance available to County Boards; the amount of financial support provided for each conversion is subject to available funds.

Service and Support Administrator (SSA) Funding

Counties who participate in the HOME Choice program can receive funding to support increased SSA costs. The costs are based on average SSA costs with benefits – according to OACB, this is approximately \$67,000 a year; the non-federal share is approximately \$23,500 per year.

- Once a county takes on 17 new people from conversion/downsizing, the Department will fund up to the equivalent of $\frac{1}{2}$ of an SSA (\$11,750/year max).
- Once a county takes on 35 new people from conversion/downsizing, the Department will fund *up to* the equivalent of one SSA (\$23,500/year max).
- County Boards will need to submit costs and average caseload information to the Department for review of funding need.
- Funding will be added to that county's allocation in the waiver match line item.
- The Department will include individuals who have participated in conversion/downsizing since July 1, 2012, for the purpose of calculating the number of individuals included in the calculation for SSA funding.

Additional Needs

Capital assistance for residential facilities serving individuals who are participating in conversion/downsizing is available in accordance with the requirements of the capital rules. Learn more about the Capital Assistance Program, including the <u>process and applicable rules</u>.

Rental Assistance funds are available for individuals leaving a DC or private ICF, or for those individuals living in a private ICF that converts to waiver funding. Assistance is based on individual income and fair market rental rates. Learn about <u>eligibility and how to access rental assistance</u>.

The availability of funds for new enrollees will be re-evaluated after the FY 2016-17 biennium.

If you have any questions, please contact:

- For DC Downsizing, Ginnie Whisman at 614-466-4177 or ginnie.whisman@dodd.ohio.gov
- For ICF Conversion, Josh Anderson at 614-387-0576 or joshua.anderson@dodd.ohio.gov
- For Home Choice, Sara Lawson at 614-420-4058 or sara.lawson@dodd.ohio.gov
- For Capital or Rental Assistance, Ernie Fischer at 614-752-3013 or ernie.fischer@dodd.ohio.gov

Thank you. Version 01/12/16