
	MENTAL RETARDATION BULLETIN COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA * DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE	
	SUBJECT Clarifying Waiver Funding and Domiciliary Care Payments	BY  Nancy R. Thaler Deputy Secretary for Mental Retardation
NUMBER:	00-03-03	
ISSUE DATE:	March 4, 2003	
EFFECTIVE DATE:	Immediately	

SCOPE:

County MH/MR Program Administrators
 Base Service Unit Directors

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Bulletin is to reiterate the fact that people with mental retardation who live in domiciliary care facilities can still receive waiver funding when eligibility requirements are met.

BACKGROUND:

Questions arose if a person living in a domiciliary care home can also be enrolled in the Consolidated Waiver or the Person/Family Directed Supports Waiver.

DISCUSSION:

Mental Retardation Bulletin 00-00-05 entitled Domiciliary Care for Persons with Mental Retardation, issued May 23, 2000, clearly states:

"County MH/MR Programs are authorized to use Medicaid 2176 Waiver funding for home and community services provided to individuals with mental retardation living in domiciliary care homes when the individual meets eligibility requirements in accordance with Department policy which is currently set forth in MR Bulletin 00-99-14, titled Individual Eligibility for Medicaid Waiver Services.

Individuals can continue to receive the domiciliary care supplement with home and community services funded under this waiver. Home and community based services must be authorized by the County MH/MR Program based on the individual's program plan. Habilitation and other waiver services provided by the provider of domiciliary care can be reimbursed under the waiver as a difficulty of care payment."

Further, a 1997 Office of Income Maintenance (OIM) policy clarification on this issue states the following:

Individuals with mental retardation may reside in a DPW licensed community home which may also be certified by the Department of Aging as a domiciliary care facility. That same recipient may qualify for the MH/MR Program waiver funding and also remain eligible for SSI and the Personal Care (PC) Supplement.

Although it is possible for an individual to receive both the PC Supplement and the MH/MR waiver funding, there should be no dual payment to the provider for the same service to the recipient. The County MH/MR Program supports coordinator will coordinate services with the local Area Agency on Aging case manager."

Waiver funds may be used to cover waiver eligible services, within established service limits, that are not covered by the recipient's SSI and PC Supplement.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE APPROPRIATE REGIONAL PROGRAM MANAGER.