



Promoting wellness and recovery

John R. Kasich, Governor • Tracy J. Plouck, Director • 30 E. Broad St. • Columbus, OH 43215 • (614) 466-2596 • mha.ohio.gov

December 10, 2015

Dear Representative Payee or Legal Guardian,

You are receiving this letter as the Representative Payee or Legal Guardian for an individual enrolled in the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addictions Services' (OhioMHAS') Residential State Supplement (RSS) Program. Individuals use RSS, which supplements their income, to pay the monthly Allowable Fee (or "rent") at eligible residences in the community.

Beginning January 1, 2016, individual RSS benefits will change to reflect rate increases for Allowable Fees and Personal Needs Allowances. The increases will align with rule changes recently made by OhioMHAS and Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) regarding RSS program eligibility and operations. Please see the table below for information about the differences between the current rates and changes effective January 1st:

Current Rates	January, 2016 Rates
<i>Allowable Fees</i> (per Living Arrangement Type)	<i>Allowable Fees</i> (per Living Arrangement Type)
Adult Foster and Family Homes \$774	Adult Foster and Family Homes \$1,100
Adult Group Homes \$877	Adult Group Homes \$1,100
Residential Care Facilities/Assisted Living \$877	Residential Care Facilities/Assisted Living \$1,100
<i>Personal Needs Allowance</i> (per Income Type)	<i>Personal Needs Allowance</i> (per Income Type)
SSI \$635	SSI \$200
Social Security and SSDI \$70	Social Security and SSDI \$200

The Allowable Fee is what is paid to the facility operator who is providing accommodations, supervision, and personal care services to the RSS enrollee. Effective January 1, 2016, operators of all living arrangements providing housing to individuals enrolled in RSS may charge up to \$1,100 per month. These rate increases are intended to support increased quality of care and operators should continue to accept the Allowable Fee as payment in full for required services. Please be aware that any changes to the Allowable Fee should be updated in the Resident Agreement between the individual and the home operator. Any fees charged for additional services should continue to be listed in the Resident Agreement and agreed to in writing by the individual or legal guardian, if applicable.

You will also notice a change in the amount of remaining funds for the RSS enrollee's Personal Needs Allowance beginning in January. There have been significant differences in individuals' Personal Needs Allowance rates depending upon income types and disregards, such as SSI recipients having approximately



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\$635 remaining for personal needs after paying the monthly allowable fee, while Social Security and SSDI recipients have approximately \$70. Effective January 1, 2016, the Personal Needs Allowance for all RSS enrollees will change to \$200 regardless of income type.

You will see changes in the individual's RSS benefits beginning with the January payment sent by the local County Department of Job and Family Services (CDJFS) office and the enrollee should also receive a Notice of Action explaining changes to the RSS benefits. If you have specific questions about the enrollee's RSS benefits, please contact Deena Mavromatis at deena.mavromatis@mha.ohio.gov or (614) 752-9316. General information about RSS is available on the program's webpage at www.mha.ohio.gov/RSS. Please note that OhioMHAS will also send letters about the RSS changes to individual enrollees, home operators, local boards, CDJFS offices, and other interested parties. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deena Mavromatis
Mental Health Administrator

Ellie Jazi, LISW-S
Community Transitions Administrator

cc: ADAMH/ADAS Boards
Disability Rights Ohio
Ohio Adult Care Facility Association
Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA)
Ohio Department of Medicaid
Services to Adult Care Homes (SACH)