

# BUDGET

# C

## CCSP-ALS Rate Increase

Submitted by: **Steve Neff, Georgia Association of Community Care Providers**

**The problem:** The Community Care Services Program (CCSP), especially ALS (Alternative Living Services), is virtually the last stop for people before going into a nursing home. All clients on the CCSP and SOURCE programs (which are funded by the Elderly and Disabled Waiver) must meet nursing home level of care. Many people remain in these services and never have to go to the nursing home and therefore save on Medicaid costs for the state.

- CCSP-ALS is the most underfunded direct care service in the Medicaid Waiver system.
- Providers need a rate increase to put ALS somewhat closer to that of other program residential services.
- Current rate is **\$37.38/day for 24-hour-a-day care, 7 days per week.**
- Allowed only 2 days per week for Adult Day Health (day care) outside the personal care home.
- The Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP) pays \$70.00/day for the same service with less nursing supervision, more day care, and a counsellor to take clients out of the home.
- Payment for DD (Developmental Disabled) clients in residential care is close to double the fee paid by ICWP.
- For nursing homes, per the Georgia Healthcare Association, the average daily rate for nursing homes is \$166/day. Remember our clients must meet nursing home level of care and be functionally impaired.
- If you add the room and board component that the CCSP-ALS clients are required to pay out of pocket (other residential services do NOT have this component), the CCSP-ALS total payment is \$58.05. Still a very low amount for what is expected.
- Reimbursement for other services with lesser requirements:
  - PSS (sending an aide into the client's home) -- \$5.05/15-minutes = \$20.20/hour (that is \$80.80 for 4 hours)
  - ADH (Adult Day Health) – Level 1 is \$50.45/day (minimum of 5 hours) and Level 2 is \$63.07/day. These clients are there during the day only.

**What other states are doing:** No info provided.

# BUDGET

# C

## CCSP-ALS Rate Increase (*con't*)

### Funding Requested:

\$6,633,072

### What this funding would do:

- **We are asking for \$12.62/day as a rate increase** to bring the **total** reimbursement rate for CCSP-ALS to \$50.00/day.
- Remember, Georgia Healthcare Facility Regulation and CCSP require 24-hour-a-day supervision and monitoring, 3 meals and 2 snacks daily, assistance with the activities of daily living, transportation to medical appointments, and more.
- The **total number of clients receiving ALS services through CCSP and SOURCE** at any given time is approximately **4500**. The total amount needed for this increase, based on 4500 clients, is \$20,728,350 with the state's portion being approximately **\$6,633,072**.
- Monies saved by CCSP and SOURCE ALS services alone, by placing clients in ALS rather than nursing homes, when they medically qualify, based on the above number of clients served, is approximately \$211-235 million annually.
- As we lose the homes providing the ALS service because they can no longer afford to do business at the current Medicaid reimbursement rate, we lose the lower cost Medicaid beds forcing more people to the higher cost nursing home beds.
- Our goal is to eventually reach a levelizing rate of \$70.00/day.

**Any Opposition:** No info provided.

**Helpful Resources:** No info provided.