# **Did You Know?**

## What's a civil penalty and what is the State Civil Penalty Reinvestment Program?

Civil penalties are fines imposed by the Department of Social and Health Services on adult family homes that do not meet federal or state health and safety standards. When these fines are collected, they are deposited in an account with the state treasurer. The funds from this account may only be used to promote the quality of life and care of residents living in adult family homes. These funds are distributed through a grant process called the State Civil Penalty Reinvestment Program, or SCPRP.

#### **How Does This Work?**

Adult family home providers, stakeholders, and other organizations are encouraged and invited to submit SCPRP grant applications for the development and implementation of quality improvement initiatives that directly or indirectly benefit adult family home residents. Organizations that may qualify for use of SCPRP grant funds include but are not limited to: consumer advocacy organizations, adult family home associations, ombuds programs, universities, private contractors, non-profit organizations, and for-profit corporations.

### Can SCPRP funds pay for normal adult family home operations?

No. SCPRP grants are only available for initiatives that are outside the scope of normal facility operations. They cannot be used to fund goods or services that the applicant already offers or is required to provide by state or federal law or regulation.

## How many SCPRP grants have been awarded in Washington State?

This program began in June of 2020. As of this writing, sixteen grants have been funded. The list of grants can be found at <a href="https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/adult-family-home-state-civil-penalty-reinvestment-program">https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/adult-family-home-state-civil-penalty-reinvestment-program</a>. These include activity programs, music therapy, purchases of tablets for connecting with family, friends, and telehealth, and more.

## When are applications accepted/when is the application period?

Due to limited funds, the application period is June 1 through July 31.

## Who decides if the grant is awarded?

Applications are reviewed by the SCPRP Committee. The committee is comprised of the Director of Residential Care Services (RCS) as well senior staff at RCS and the Policy Program Manager.

#### Who can I contact for additional information?

Libby Wagner is the Policy Program Manager responsible for receiving applications. If you have ideas for a grant, questions, or need assistance, please contact her at scprprogram@dshs.wa.gov.