**Did You Know?**

**What’s a CMP?**

*CMP stands for Civil Money Penalty. Civil Money Penalties or CMPs are fines imposed on nursing facilities by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that do not meet federal health and safety standards. Washington State receives a portion of the funds collected to be reinvested in support of projects that improve the overall quality of life and/or care for nursing facility residents.*

**How Does This Work?**

*Nursing facility providers, nursing home stakeholders, and other organizations are encouraged and invited to submit CMP fund grant applications for the development and implementation of quality improvement initiatives that directly or indirectly benefit nursing home residents. Organizations that may qualify for use of CMP grant funds include but are not limited to: consumer advocacy organizations, nursing home associations, ombudsmen’s, universities, private contractors, non-profits and for-profit corporations.*

**Can CMP funds pay for normal nursing home operations?**

*No. CMP 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 CMP grants have been awarded in Washington State?**

Currently, we have five grants that are ongoing and one grant for the Music and Memory Program has been completed. We have funds available to grant to entities to improve the lives of nursing home residents in our state.

**What about examples? What types of projects have been approved already in Washington?**

*Check out our web page* [*https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/civil-money-penalty-cmp-funds*](https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/civil-money-penalty-cmp-funds) *for more information. CMP funds are making programs like It’s Never Too Late iN2L), Eldergrow, Music & Memory and others possible! Other states have used CMP funds for projects to improve dementia care and reduce the use of antipsychotics, improve the quality of care for deaf and deaf-blinds residents, a culture change conference for staff, and reducing hospital readmission through the Interventions to Reduce Acute Care Transfers (INTERACT) program to name just a few. Do you have an idea or know of a need in a nursing facility? If so, please reach out to the CMP Grant Specialist to share your ideas and submit an application.*

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

*We accept applications on a continuous, year-round basis.*

**Who decides if the grant is awarded?**

*Applications are first reviewed by the CMP Committee at the state and if approved at the state level, then the application is sent to CMS for their review and consideration. The state committee is comprised of the Director of Residential Care Services (RCS) as well senior staff at RCS and the CMP Grant Specialist.*

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

*Melissa Lawton is our CMP Grant Specialist. She can be reached at* [*melissa.lawton@dshs.wa.gov*](mailto:melissa.lawton@dshs.wa.gov) *or by phone at 360-725-3204. If you have ideas for a grant, questions, or need assistance, please contact her.*