STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

May 7, 2014

Dear Interested Stakeholders:

We hope you can join us on June 5, 2014 for an informational webinar to discuss the new Community First Choice Options (CFCO) program.

As part of the Affordable Care Act, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently finalized the rules for the CFCO program. CFCO is a Medicaid State Plan optional service which provides person-centered services and supports in home and community-based settings at an enhanced federal funding rate. In Washington, any leftover funding not used in CFCO will be reserved for potential reinvestment, as required by the legislature, in other home and community-based services for individuals served through the Aging and Long-Term Support and Developmental Disabilities Administrations.

CFCO is an entitlement program that will replace the Medicaid Personal Care program with additional services available to clients receiving personal care in their own homes or in community residential settings. The federal requirements direct the Department to establish a Planning and Design Work Group. The work group is 51 percent comprised of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and their representatives. The work group is charged with developing recommendations using the parameters set by the federal and state statutes. The Planning and Design Work Group initially met on April 16, 2014 and will continue to meet monthly.

The informational webinar is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. PST on June 5, 2014. This webinar is an opportunity to not only learn more about CFCO but provide input to the Planning and Design Work Group and to the Department. Further information about CFCO and instructions to register for the webinar can be found on the CFCO webpage at: http://www.altsa.dshs.wa.gov/CFCO.

We hope you can join the webinar on June 5. If you have any questions about this project or the upcoming webinar, please contact Sandy Robertson at (360) 725-2576 or by email at RoberSK@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Bill Moss, Assistant Secretary
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration

Evelyn Perez, Assistant Secretary
Developmental Disabilities Administration