



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Disability Services Administration
Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery
PO Box 45330, Olympia, WA 98504-5330

May 26, 2011

TO: County Alcohol and Drug Coordinators
Adult Residential Providers
PPW Residential Providers
Youth Residential and Detox Providers
Opiate Substitution Treatment Providers
Chemical Dependency Professional Associations

FROM: David A. Dickinson, Director 

SUBJECT: 2011-13 STATE BUDGET IMPACTS

I am writing to invite you to a discussion on the impacts of the 2011-13 Biennial state budget on substance abuse programs and services. As most of you know, the Legislature passed the budget last evening and the Governor is currently reviewing it. As I promised, prior to and throughout this legislative session, when I knew the budget reduction, (pending any vetoes by the Governor), I would have a conversation with you as system stakeholders to get input on how you would like to see the reductions implemented.

I have scheduled this stakeholder meeting for Friday, June 3rd at Cherry Street Plaza from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. The meeting will be convened in the Apple/Peach Room with a call-in option. For planning purposes, all participants, regardless if you plan to participate in person or by phone, will need to RSVP to Lois Williams by 2 p.m. on June 2nd via e-mail at lois.williams@dshs.wa.gov or by phone at 360-725-3729.

The specific budget language associated with the \$7,060,000 biennial reduction that we will be discussing is outlined below:

Outpatient and residential services for low income individuals who do not qualify for other state programs; non-federally matched services for individuals on Medicaid or receiving medical care through the 1115 waiver; and the associated state and county administration is reduced by approximately 11 percent. Funding for youth residential, pregnant and parenting women, and federally matched services for individuals on Medicaid or receiving medical care through the 1115 waiver are not reduced.

I would encourage you to be thinking about a fair implementation strategy, based on research and patient needs, for this reduction. You are also encouraged to discuss options within and between your professional associations before June 3rd. I have asked DBHR staff to develop some options to be considered as well. I will be viewing the internal options as a starting place, but am certainly open to suggestions from you prior to finalizing.

I apologize for the short notice, but know you can appreciate the need for quick turnaround in order to prepare contracts and notify existing contractors of the impacts they may be facing. If you have any questions about this meeting I encourage you to contact John Taylor at john.taylor@dshs.wa.gov or 360-725-3774.