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April 29, 2021

To: ODDS Stakeholders

From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

Subject: List of funding options

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) into law, enacting a sweeping \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief package. The legislation includes a number of provisions that will significantly impact state and federal health care policies and programs, including enhanced federal funding for state Medicaid spending on home- and community-based services (HCBS).

The American Rescue Plan Act provides states with a one-year, 10 percentage point increase in their federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP). This results in an additional, one-time allocation of roughly \$160 million for ODDS.

The Oregon Legislature requested ODDS and other programs with HCBS funding develop a list of options for this additional, one-time funding.

While identifying the list, ODDS worked under the following principles:

- Items that will benefit the I/DD workforce
- Items that improve the lives of people and communities impacted by COVID-19
- Items that are time-limited, one-time requests
- Requests aligned with service equity

ODDS sought input from staff and stakeholders, including self-advocates, providers, members of the Vision Advisory Committee, and case management entities, to create the list of requests. We also coordinated

with other programs such as Aging & People with Disabilities and Child Welfare. The full list submitted to the Oregon Legislature is [online](#) and is not in any prioritized order.

A few highlights include:

- Restoring capacity to hardest hit programs from COVID-19, such as employment and day support activities
- Building capacity for culturally relevant providers
- Equity grants
- Restoring the Fairview Trust
- Funding increases for the critical I/DD workforce
- Infrastructure improvements

The Legislature will determine what happens next. ODDS has let Legislators know that we have yet to receive Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance on use of these funds. Based on CMS guidance, some items on the list may have to be adjusted or revised.

We look forward to continue working in partnership with our stakeholders. We will keep you informed as we learn more.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lilia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Lilia Teninty
Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

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