

JAMES V. McDONALD, MD, MPH Commissioner

JOHANNE E. MORNE, MS Executive Deputy Commissioner

July 2, 2025

Re: DAL DRS 25-03

Subject:

Civil Monetary Penalty Reinvestment Funds/Quality of Care Improvement Program 2025

Dear Nursing Home Administrator:

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the State of New York are authorized to impose civil monetary penalties or fines on nursing homes found to be non-compliant with regulatory requirements. Sections 1819(h)(2)(B)(ii)(IV)(ff) and 1919(h)(3)(C)(ii)(IV)(ff) of the Social Security Act incorporate specific provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that authorize the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to use federally-imposed fines to reimburse states for projects that improve quality of care and quality of life for nursing home residents. On September 23, 2023, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services issued <u>QSO-23-23-NHs</u> with guidelines on the types of projects that are reimbursable. PHL §2803.10 authorizes the Department to use State-imposed fines for similar projects for residents of residential health care facilities.

As such, the New York State Department of Health announces the Quality of Care Improvement Program 2025. Funding through this program will be available to New York State licensed Nursing Homes that are certified Medicare/Medicaid providers in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for each of the following programs:

**Consumer Information** – To develop and disseminate information that is directly useful to nursing home residents and their families in becoming knowledgeable about their rights, nursing home care processes, and other information useful to a resident. Information may be in the form of flyers, brochures, web-based materials, etc. **Proof of completion will be due by October 31, 2025.** 

**Training to Improve Quality of Care** - To provide training in facility improvement initiatives in the areas of Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia, Wound Care, Patient Safety, Trauma Centered Care, Pain Management, Cultural Sensitivity, Culture Change, Person-Centered Care, Safe Medication Management, Oral Health, Non-Pharmaceutical Solutions, and Falls Education. The training must be open to multiple nursing homes, including joint training of facility staff and surveyors, technical assistance for facilities implementing quality assurance programs, and training for residents and/or family councils, Long Term Care Ombudsman, or advocacy organizations. CMP funds may not be used for trainings that are currently required, standard state approved CNA training programs, or Paid Feeding Assistant training programs. **Proof of completion will be due by November 28, 2025.** 

Activities to Improve Quality of Life - These funds must be used to foster social interaction, movement, and minimize loneliness. Projects may include horticulture/gardening, music therapy, animal therapy, reading and memory interventions, crafting and other movement-based activities. Facilities are eligible for one-time funding not to exceed \$5,000.00. Proof of completion will be due by December 31, 2025.

This is a reimbursement-based funding program. Upon completion of agreed upon activities or programs, proof of completion must be submitted to receive payment.

Funding is **not** available for personnel services or to support Capital Improvement Projects. Personnel services include, but are not limited to, increases in staff's compensation, salary, or wages. Capital Improvement Projects involve the construction, repair, or improvement of a property or asset including, but not limited to, enhancing the physical environment.

Facilities that are interested in applying for this opportunity must complete the Civil Monetary Penalty Reinvestment Application via link which will be shared via email with facilities who indicate their interest. Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on July 31, 2025. Please carefully review the instructions.

Facility operators who do not have an established Statewide Financial System account must register for one by completing the "New York State Office of the State Comptroller Substitute Form W-9: Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification." Completed forms should be emailed to <u>sfsvidr@health.ny.gov</u>. Please expedite your application to allow for additional processing. Once you submit your completed Substitute Form W-9, the Office of the State Comptroller's Vendor Management Unit will contact you directly to complete the process of establishing a vendor identification number, which is required to set up your SFS account. An established Statewide Financial System account is a requirement to apply. Additional information can be obtained at the following sites:

OSC: <u>http://www.osc.state.ny.us/vendors/index.htm</u> SFS: <u>http://www.sfs.ny.gov/</u>

Proof of Vendor ID must be printed out from the SFS system and uploaded to the application. Applicants must address any discrepancies noted with the Vendor ID, Payee Name and/or Address prior to submission of their application. Questions can be routed to <u>HelpDesk@sfs.ny.gov</u>.

Facilities that have successfully applied, and have been deemed eligible for funding, will receive written notification of the Department's intent to award.

Questions may be directed to <u>LTC.CMPfunding@health.ny.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Kristen M. Pergolino, Director Division of Residential Support Center for Residential Surveillance

- CC:
- Dr. Fish V. Deetz C. Rodat

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