

February 8, 2005

TO: LCOG Executive Committee

FROM: Ted Stevens

SUBJECT: Amendments to the Current Year Area Plan Budget

**Background:**

The approved current year Area Plan Budget shows Oregon Project Independence (OPI) revenues at \$467,020. Last April, the Legislature's Emergency Board appropriated an additional \$1 million, statewide, to OPI for the 2003-05 biennium. LCOG's share of these new funds is \$94,566. With this addition, plus the carry-over of unspent funds from 2003-04, available OPI revenues for the current year stand at \$623,309. The Advisory Councils' Planning & Budget Committee considered a staff-developed plan for utilizing these funds at its November 2004 meeting.

**Key Features of the Staff Plan for Using Additional OPI Funds this Year:**

The outlook for Oregon's 2005-07 budget is not good. The Governor is recommending that the biennial appropriation for OPI be reduced by approximately 60 percent. Given this fact, staff considered whether it is appropriate to ramp up services now. Following an internal debate, staff elected to develop a plan for the utilization of available funds that meets two objectives: (1) it provides services to people truly in need of them; and (2) it provides services where the likelihood of long term need/utilization is remote, thus making downsizing, if required, less difficult.

The proposal staff offered to the Planning & Budget Committee calls for S&DS to target additional Home and Personal Care services to OPI-eligible persons 60+ years of age who are enrolled in a Medicare-funded hospice program. (For Executive Committee members not aware of the eligibility requirement for Medicare funded hospice care, an enrollee's physician must believe that the individual is within six months of death.) All other features of the traditional OPI Home and Personal Care programs will be followed: eligibility will be limited to persons assessed at levels 1-15; services will be limited to 20 hours per month (unless an exception is granted by S&DS); Addus will be the provider of these services; and fees will be collected pursuant to OPI's sliding fee schedule.

Patti Little, S&DS' Contract Manager, handled the operational planning for this new initiative. She met several times with key staff from the two hospice agencies in the Eugene/Springfield area. Supervisory staff from Addus was also involved in these discussions. All three agencies are very supportive of this initiative.

Recognizing that a barrier to the success of this initiative is S&DS' intake system for long term care services (generally, applicants must wait over two weeks for an intake appointment), the staff plan calls for the hiring of one FTE temporary OPI Case Manager, with the understanding that this staff's primary function will be performing intakes for hospice clients referred for OPI services. Also, to expedite the intake and service initiation processes, Patti worked out arrangements for S&DS' Case Manager and Addus' RN to conduct joint home visits to the homes of participants in this special program whenever possible.

S&DS estimates that the available funding will support the provision of services to 44 hospice clients during the period from December 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005. The hospice agencies anticipate making up to four referrals per week, with clients' involvement in the program limited to a few weeks.

Given the enthusiastic endorsement for the Planning & Budget Committee at its November meeting, and the fact that time is of the essence, staff moved forward with the implementation of this program on December 1, 2004. To this end, two part time (20 hours/week) MSWs were hired by S&DS as Case Managers for this program, and Addus added CNAs to its staff to handle the anticipated referrals for Personal Care services. Referrals from the hospice agencies commenced on

Monday, December 13, 2004. Therefore, staff is very hopeful that the LCOG Executive Committee, acting for the Board of Directors, will support this new initiative. (Note: The Senior Services Advisory Council approved this plan and other housekeeping changes to the current year Area Plan Budget at its meeting on December 14, 2004, and the Disability Services Advisory Council followed suit at its January 2005 meeting.)

### **Budget Proposal:**

To accomplish the plan set forth above, as well as provide a minor enhancement to the funding for the Money Management Program and budget all available Medicaid funds for S&DS' work on behalf of Oregon's Medicaid and Food Stamps programs, proposed amendments to LCOG's current year Area Plan Budget were developed. They are set forth on the following page.

Two additional notes regarding these proposed amendments may help to answer Executive Committee members' questions in advance of the February 17 meeting: (1) the OPI allocation to S&DS' Meals on Wheels program is reduced by \$5,918 due to the low volume of referrals of OPI-eligible clients to the Senior Meals Program for this service; and (2) the proposed amendments leave \$4,488 of OPI funds un-budgeted. It is S&DS' intent to "give" these funds back to DHS, if requested, so that they can be re-assigned to an AAA in eastern Oregon in need of additional OPI funds this year.

### **Requested Action:**

That the LCOG Executive Committee approve the proposed amendments to the agency's Current Year Area Plan Budget, as set forth on the table on the next page.

Attachment

*Last Saved: February 8, 2005*

## Amendments to LCOG's 2004-05 Area Plan Budget

	Spent in	Approved	Proposed	
	FY03-04	Budget	Amendments to	Proposed
PROGRAM	(Last Year)	This Year	Current Year	Revised 04-05
			Budget	Budget
AAA Administration	\$ 124,328	\$ 177,102	\$ -	\$ 177,102
LTC Ombudsman Support	1,222	1,222	-	1,222
Senior Connections				
- Information & Assistance	89,285	105,530	-	105,530
- OAA Case Management	89,285	105,530	-	105,530
Rural Escort	9,943	9,943	-	9,943
Legal Services	57,349	57,349	-	57,349
Group Meals	303,547	318,002	-	318,002
Eug/Spfld Core Meals on Whls	83,960	99,512	-	99,512
Bal of County Meals on Whls	158,682	189,600	(5,918)	183,682
Eugene/Spfld ElderHelp	15,264	15,249	-	15,249
Bill Payer Program	13,421	13,421	5,683	19,104
Mental Health Services	31,325	33,495	-	33,495
Abuse Prevention Services	4,218	6,577	-	6,577
OPI Case Management	37,700	93,404	35,122	128,526
Home Care	75,185	151,274	19,163	170,437
Personal Care	54,339	123,770	83,784	207,554
CEP Home/Personal Care	2,225	5,400	-	5,400
Family Caregiver Support	205,941	215,864	-	215,864
Medication Management	3,318	5,802	-	5,802
Medicaid Services	6,147,574	7,809,762	86,289	7,896,051
Sub Totals	\$ 7,508,111	\$ 9,537,808	\$ 224,123	\$ 9,761,931
Transfer OPI \$ to Other AAA		-	4,488	4,488
Total Proposed Changes	-	-	228,611	9,766,419
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	396,104	(228,611)	167,493
Totals	\$ 7,508,111	\$ 9,933,912	\$ -	\$ 9,933,912