

“Section 27 of Public Act 12-104 provided that the funding was appropriated for one-percent cost-of-living adjustment for private providers that contract with the Departments of Developmental Services, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Children and Families, Social Services, Public Health and Corrections and the Judicial Department are to be used to provide an increase in provider or subcontractor employee wages and benefits effective January 1,2013. The cost of living adjustment shall be applied in the manner outlined in the Public Act; however, providers may apply for a good cause exception to be approved by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM). Any requests for such an exception shall be forwarded to the State contracting agency, which agency shall forward the request to OPM for its review and action.

*DDS is working on distributing the 1% Cola. The Cola will be added to the authorizations effective as of 1/1/2013. The individual budget standard rates will be increased by 1% and authorizations will be adjusted accordingly (See attached Rate Sheet effective as of January 1, 2013). All contracted providers will receive the COLA based on the December 2012 pay pull. **Within the providers 1% COLA, the department’s goal is to distribute more of the funding to those people below the rates. When this is not possible due to the provider’s higher funding level, DDS will distribute the COLA funding proportionately to all of its authorizations.***

Providers with a Purchase of Service Contract shall have the Executive Director or Chief Financial Officer certify shall, in its eight-month financial report to DDS, that the cost-of-living funds have been applied for the purposes included in Section 27 of Public Act 12-104 and attach a brief explanation as to the provider’s use of these funds. Providers receiving funds through an individual budget shall have the Principle of the Entity submit a brief explanation as to the provider’s use of these funds for the purposes included in Section 27 of Public Act 12-104.

Instructions to the Fiscal Intermediaries on how the COLA adjustments will be handled and additional information regarding the COLA for the IP6 Budgets and contracts will be sent out shortly.

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