

Testimony
Department of Human Services
Human Services Committee
Representative Alon Wieland, Chairman
April 17, 2012

Chairman Wieland and members of the Human Services committee, I am Karen Tescher, Assistant Director of the Long Term Care Continuum with the Medical Services Division, for the Department of Human Services. I appear before you to provide information on the Department's Adult Family Foster Care Program including information on services and payment levels.

Adult Family Foster Care (AFFC) provides assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs), instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs) and supportive services provided in a licensed private home by a care provider that lives in the home. AFFC is provided to individuals who are at least 18 years old and receive services while residing in a licensed AFFC home. The total number of individuals who live in an AFFC home who are unrelated to the care provider cannot exceed four.

- AFFC rates are determined by the monthly rate worksheet, which assigns a rate depending on the number of services an individual needs. (Please see Attachment A of the monthly rate worksheet.) The county Case Manager does a functional assessment of the client to determine the services needed.
- The current maximum daily rate is \$72.17.
- For individuals with few needs, the daily amount could be much less. The lowest current daily rate is \$29.13.

- In addition to the daily rate, the client would be responsible for a maximum room and board rate of \$525 per month. AFFC providers may choose to charge less.
- AFFC providers that care for public pay clients have access to respite care up to \$899 per month with additional amounts available for providers with multiple public pay clients. Respite care provides the AFFC provider temporary relief from the stresses and demands associated with daily care and can also be used in case of an emergency such as sudden, serious illness in provider's immediate family requiring the provider to be away from caregiving duties.
- The amount of respite care that is available depends on how many public and private pay clients are living in the home. If a provider is caring for more than one public pay client, the provider receives an additional \$176.20 per month for each additional client.
- Currently, there are 51 AFFC providers.
- Currently there are 32 public pay clients being served in AFFCs.
- In addition, Extended Personal Care is being provided in at least one AFFC home. This service allows the Qualified Service Provider (QSP) (every AFFC provider must enroll as a QSP) to administer medications once they have received training from a nurse.
- AFFC homes play an important role by offering 24-hour care in a home environment where the clients benefit from the consistency of the same caregiver and interaction with the family.

This concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.