

Department of Health & Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
61 Forsyth Street, SW, Suite 4T20
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8909



IMPORTANT NOTICE – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY
(Receipt of this Notice is Presumed to be August 20, 2019 Date Notice E-mailed)

August 20, 2019

Ms. Linda Nelms, Ph.D, MPH, CHES
Coordinator n/c Allied Health
Division of Workforce Training
Walters State Community College
500 S. Davy Crockett Parkway
Morristown, Tennessee 37813
Linda.nelms@ws.edu

Re: Request for State Use of CMP Funds
2019-04-TN-0703
CMP Fund Request Approved- \$350,254.00

Dear Dr. Linda Nelms:

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 pertaining to the collection and uses of civil money penalties (CMPs) imposed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) when nursing homes do not meet requirements for long term care facilities. In accordance with 42 CFR § 488.433 and CMS Survey & Certification Memo 12-13-NH (effective January 1, 2012) States must obtain approval from CMS for the use of federally imposed CMP funds.

Our office has reviewed the proposal submitted by Walters State Community College, Division of Workforce Training to provide evidence-based training to nursing home frontline staff, targeting Certified Nursing Assistants, who work with Alzheimer's and other dementias. Person-centered, online certification training titled, "CARES Online Dementia Training will be provided to certified nursing homes located in a ten county rural area. The counties are Claiborne, Sevier, Hancock, Hamblen, Cocke, Greene, Hawkins, Jefferson, Grainger and Union. A regional healthcare consortium comprised of leaders from four counties will assist with this three-year project.

Congratulations, CMS has approved the usage of CMP funds to directly improve the quality of care for nursing home residents living with dementia. Acceptance of CMP funds by Walters State Community College, requires the Project Leader to:

- Maintain a list of all staff that receive the evidence based training;
- Notify the LTC Ombudsman and the State Survey Agency of the date, time and location of focus groups with frontline staff, stakeholders and community meetings;
- Include information in each quarterly report on the number of modules completed by participants, and the number of participants that complete all 33 hours of training;
- Provide the name, address and telephone number of consortium partners;
- Maintains an up-to-date list of consortium partners, which is included in each quarterly report;
- Share a copy of all signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with the State and CMS upon request.
- Provides a map that discloses the number of Certified Nursing Assistants in the ten-county region that successfully complete the CARES Online Dementia Training.
- Maintains information on the number of family members that participate in the CARES Dementia Care for Families Program;
- At least annually, hosts a conference call with the State, CMS and Consortium Partners on the status of the project, and the impact of the CMP project on care delivery and workforce development.

Reporting on the CMP project is an important and integral aspect of receiving civil money penalty (CMP) funds from CMS. Reports should provide information on the specified deliverables and activities stated in the original CMP request; as well as, any new findings, pitfalls, successes, and updates on the budget. Being honest, clear, and forthcoming in the quarterly reports will help CMS to understand the impact of the dementia training on quality of care, quality of life, and resident to staff interactions.

The CMS regional office looks forward to receiving quarterly reports. Quarterly reports shall include a cover letter with the name of the project leader, along with their telephone number and e-mail address; and the CMP request number 2019-04-TN-0703 on all pages of the report and narrative. Submit quarterly reports to:

Stephanie M. Davis, MS.,RD
LTC Certification & Enforcement Branch
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Suite 4T20
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

State use of civil money penalty fund requests are not subject to an appeal. This CMP request was made possible by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in partnership with the Tennessee State Survey Agency.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Stephanie Davis, Chief, LTC Enforcement Branch at (404) 562-7471.

Sincerely,

Stephanie M. Davis

for:

Linda D. Smith
Associate Regional Administrator
Division of Survey & Certification

cc: Stephanie M. Davis
Sally Pitt
Jacy Weems
Shaqualla Shanks
Louise Ryan
CMPRP Team