

**PERRY COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN**

2023-2024

October 13, 2023

Perry County Commissioners:

**Brian S. Allen, Chair
Brenda L. Watson, Vice-Chair
Larry F. Reisinger, Secretary**

For any questions regarding this plan, please contact:
Robin Tolan, Cumberland-Perry MH Human Services Program Manager
(717) 240-6320
ratolan@cumberlandcountypa.gov

PERRY COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN 2023-2024

**APPENDIX A
Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

PERRY COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES PLAN

ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE

- A. The County assures that services will be managed and delivered in accordance with the County Human Services Plan submitted herewith.
- B. The County assures, in compliance with Act 153 of 2016, that the County Human Services Plan submitted herewith has been developed based upon the County officials' determination of County need, formulated after an opportunity for public comment in the County.
- C. The County assures that it and its providers will maintain the eligibility records and other records necessary to support the expenditure reports submitted to the Department of Human Services.
- D. The County hereby expressly, and as a condition precedent to the receipt of state and federal funds, assures that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act of 1955, as amended; and 16 PA Code, Chapter 49 (relating to contract compliance):
 - 1. The County does not and will not discriminate against any person because of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, origin, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability in providing services or employment, or in its relationship with other providers; or in providing access to services and employment for individuals with disabilities.
 - 2. The County will comply with all regulations promulgated to enforce the statutory provisions against discrimination.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS/COUNTY EXECUTIVE

<i>Signature(s)</i>	<i>Please Print Name(s)</i>	
	Brian S. Allen	Date:
	Brenda L Watson	Date:
	Larry F. Reisinger	Date:

PERRY COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN 2023-2024

APPENDIX B

INTRODUCTION

This Human Services Block Grant (HSBG) plan is submitted on behalf of the Perry County Board of Commissioners and represents input from the Cumberland-Perry Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Program (C-P MH.IDD), Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Commission (C-P D&A), Perry Human Services, Neighbor Helping Neighbor Food Bank, and the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter #49. The plan was developed in collaboration with these agencies and the Perry County Family Services Partnership Board.

Perry County is a joiner with Cumberland County for the Mental Health, Intellectual and Developmental Disability Services and the Drug and Alcohol Commission. In December 1967, a joint Mental Health & Mental Retardation program was established with the Boards of County Commissioners of Cumberland and Perry Counties in compliance with the Mental Health & Mental Retardation Act of 1966. The agency now known as Cumberland-Perry Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Program (C-P MH.IDD) operates as a department of Cumberland County government and serves residents of Cumberland and Perry Counties in need of those treatment services and rehabilitative supports. Initially, the Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Commission was a part of the MH.IDD program, and in 1980, became a separate agency, continuing with the county joiner arrangement. For these services, coordinated planning is ongoing between the two counties with service providers, consumers, family members, other County Human Services, and Commissioners evaluating current services, need areas, and how best to meet the needs of the residents of Cumberland and Perry Counties. We are committed to ensuring this successful joiner arrangement maintains as it has provided opportunities for residents from both counties that would not have been afforded otherwise. As per the plan directive, narratives and information related to those joiner services are found in the Cumberland County (CC) Human Services Block Grant Plan.

PART I: COUNTY PLANNING PROCESS

Describe the county planning and leadership team and the process utilized to develop the plan for the expenditure of human services funds by answering each question below.

- 1. Please identify the critical stakeholder groups, including individuals and their families, consumer groups, providers of human services, and partners from other systems, involved in the county's human services system.*

The Perry County Family Service Partnership Board serves as the focal point for Plan development in Perry County. Established in 1995 under the direction of the Perry County Commissioners in response to the Family Service System Reform (FSSR) initiative, the Partnership Board is a collaboration of family service customers, local government, schools, human service agencies, public health and local community representatives. The Partnership Board believes that our county will be an environment that enhances the well-being of all members of the community. The mission of the Partnership Board is to assist and empower communities to invest in solutions to meet their own needs. Various Community and Human Service agencies and County Commissioners participate in monthly meetings to share information and discuss needs, solutions and outcomes. Board meeting participants include representatives from:

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- Adoption services
- Aging services
- Area Churches
- Child & Family services
- Child care services
- Community Ministry services
- Community Partnership agencies
- Commuter & Transportation services
- Council of the Arts
- County Commissioners
- County School Districts
- Domestic Violence services
- Early Education services
- Early Intervention services
- Employment & Vocational services
- Food Bank Ministries
- Home health agencies
- Hospice agencies
- Housing & Homelessness services
- Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities services
- Law Enforcement
- Legal services
- Literacy council
- Long Term Care services
- Mental Health services
- Parenting Networks
- Physical & Behavioral Health Managed Care Organizations
- Physical Health Disabilities services
- Probation office
- Public libraries
- Social services
- State Representatives' office
- State Senators' office
- Substance Use Disorder services
- Veterans services
- Wellness services

Stakeholder input occurs from all of the agencies, organizations, and services mentioned. Most participants are also community members who strive to improve their local communities.

The Perry Health Coalition involves many of the previously mentioned stakeholders and has several initiatives to address community needs in Perry County. Access to primary care, dental and mental health providers in order to improve health outcomes for those living in the county is the primary need according to the community residents. The Perry County Health Coalition's work moving forward will continue to focus on these areas.

Stakeholder input also occurs through the monthly Cumberland & Perry Mental Health Community Support Program (CSP) meetings as well as Cumberland & Perry Child & Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP). Please see the Cumberland County (CC) plan for more information on the planning processes for our joinder services. Many program committees include stakeholders as well to ensure consumer voice and participation in the planning process.

Perry County Plan of Safe Care (POSC) is required by federal and state law under Act 54 and has taken the place of the Perry County Integrated Children's meeting. POSC consists of a cross-system committee who meet to provide support for infants that are born affected by substance use or withdraw symptoms that result from prenatal drug exposure or Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder (FASD). The plan is to improve the safety, early childhood development and well-being of the infant and their caregivers. The plans are individualized and multigenerational with the intention of connecting the infant and family to multidisciplinary resources and supports. The Perry County Plan of Safe Care Team partners to ensure that infants born affected by substances and their caregivers receive needed treatment which begins with early identification through appropriate screening and assessments.

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The multidisciplinary teams (MDT) consist of staff from:

- Children & Youth
- Early Intervention
- Drug and Alcohol
- Mental Health
- Nurse Family Partnership
- Maternal Assistance Program – Penn State Health Holy Spirit
- PA State Health Nurse
- Tri-County Community Action

Additional stakeholders are regularly involved in the overall human service planning process as a function of ongoing collaboration. Service needs and system enhancements with regard to human service planning are discussed at the following regular meetings, many of which involve consumers and various community service agencies:

- Perry County Family Partnership Board meetings
- Perry County Health Coalition and Behavioral Health Task Force
- Perry County LINK to Aging & Disability Resources meetings
- Cumberland-Perry Housing Initiative (CPHI) meetings
- Cumberland-Perry Community Partners for Change
- Perry Housing Task Force meetings
- Cumberland & Perry Counties' CASSP Core Teams
- Perry County Plan of Safe Care meetings
- Cumberland-Perry Community Support Program (CSP) meetings
- NAMI PA-Cumberland-Perry Counties' meetings
- Cumberland & Perry MH Provider and Base Service Unit (BSU) meetings
- Behavioral Health Managed Care committee meetings including Quality Improvement/Utilization Management (QI/UM), Clinical, Reinvestment Planning and Consumer & Family Focus Committee (CFFC) with our behavioral health partners - Capital Area Behavioral Health Collaborative (CABHC) & PerformCare

Information for the Human Services Plan is gathered continuously throughout the year via these collaborative and joint planning processes.

2. *Please describe how these stakeholders were provided with an opportunity for participation in the planning process, including information on outreach and engagement efforts.*

Information is discussed and gathered through the numerous committees and community meetings previously mentioned throughout the year. Many of these are open forums and consumer, family member, and provider involvement is strongly encouraged through notifications via newsletters, emails, listserves, and social media. Many of these meetings are announced at Partnership Board meetings and CSP meetings. Consumer participation is strongly encouraged. In addition, stakeholder input occurs at the community advisory committee meetings that each department holds and through the monthly Mental Health Community Support Program (CSP) meetings. Many program committees include stakeholders as well to ensure consumer voice and participation in the planning process. Public Hearings were also held and Legal Notices

PERRY COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN 2023-2024

issued to make others aware of these opportunities to give input into the planning process. In addition, notifications and documents are posted on various county websites to support wide dissemination of information.

3. Please list the advisory boards that were involved in the planning process.

As previously stated, the Perry County Family Service Partnership Board serves in an advisory capacity to numerous participating human service and community agencies within Perry County. The chief role of this collaborative board is to identify community needs and make recommendations on strategies to address those needs as well as serve as a clearinghouse for information and as a collaborative entity for future program planning.

In addition, each of the impacted human service departments (MH.IDD and D&A) hold regularly scheduled community advisory board committee meetings that are open to the public.

County Commissioner representatives from both counties participate on the Cumberland-Perry MH.IDD Advisory Board. This Advisory Board is comprised of individuals from the community who represent various professional disciplines including religion, social work, education, aging, employment, and medical field including a physician, a nurse, and a neuropsychologist. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is also represented on this advisory board as is a family member of an IDD consumer and a consumer in mental health recovery. Representatives are identified from both counties and are appointed by the Board of Commissioners of their respective county. Various stakeholders including consumers, family members, and providers also attend and participate in the monthly advisory committee meetings which provide consumer voice and participation in the planning process.

The Boards of County Commissioners of Cumberland and Perry Counties select volunteers representing various community and geographic interests to serve on the Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Commission Community Advisory Board. There are eight board representatives from Cumberland County and seven representatives from Perry County. The Drug and Alcohol Commission Community Advisory Board meets every other month. All of these meetings are open to the public. The responsibility of this group of 15 appointed members is to plan and oversee the delivery of public-funded drug and alcohol services in the counties, which includes coordination and collaboration with other county-managed human services.

The Neighbor Helping Neighbor Food Bank has a board of directors which meets regularly to provide oversight of and input to the program. The Food Bank is a stand-alone non-profit organization.

4. Please describe how the county intends to use funds to provide services to its residents in the least restrictive setting appropriate to their needs. (The response must specifically address providing services in the least restrictive setting.)

The County intends to use allocated funds to provide services to its residents in the least restrictive settings appropriate to individuals' needs. A major value that cuts across all the County-managed human services is an emphasis on building a broad range of community-based treatment and support services that reduce the need for and reliance upon more restrictive (and costly) residential, inpatient, and institutional programs.

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For more than two decades, a guiding principle in our local human service planning has been to develop networks of care that will allow County residents to access appropriate services while retaining as much self-sufficiency as possible in the community. This approach applies to the recipients of all the human services described in this and the CC plan: consumers of mental health services, citizens with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, persons in recovery from a substance use disorder, youth (including juvenile offenders), individuals who are homeless, older citizens, and individuals with physical disabilities. Specific examples of this programmatic philosophy can be found within each human service area in this and the CC plan. Each program has an array of services available to residents and various processes to determine the most appropriate level of care to meet the consumers' needs.

Our priority is to continue providing community based services that meet those needs. Each program and/or service develops its own budget and determines expenditures based on the allocation of funds and needs of each program and their consumers. Each department/service reviews available data to determine the budget and anticipated expenditure of the state allocated funds.

5. *Please list any substantial programmatic and/or funding changes being made as a result of last year's outcomes.*

The priority for funding is to sustain the current infrastructure of community-based services as much as possible. However, if our financial allocations cannot meet the needs of the community, we would determine where budgetary and programmatic cuts would be necessary.

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PART II: PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Two (2) public hearings are required for counties participating in the Human Services Block Grant (HSBG).

1. *Proof of publication* – Legal Notices were placed in several local newspapers in Cumberland and Perry Counties as well as on the Cumberland and Perry County websites to alert county residents of the Public Hearings for the Human Services Plans. As our counties are a joinder for some services, the public hearing notices were made known to residents of both counties with advertisement in the News Sun, Perry County Times, and Duncannon Record. The HSBG plan was presented for public hearing and discussion on August 21, 2023 at 1:00 PM at the Perry County Commissioners' Meeting; at the Community Support Program (CSP) Public Hearing on September 11, 2023 at 10:00 AM at 253 Penrose Place, Carlisle; and during the Perry County Commissioners' Meeting on October 2, 2023, at 10:00 AM at the Commissioner's Hearing Room in New Bloomfield, in person and via Web-Ex. Notification of the public hearings was also distributed via email and listservs, and posted on county websites.
 - a. *Please attach a copy of the actual newspaper advertisement(s) for the public hearing(s).* See below for the public hearing notices.- an actual newspaper copy of the advertisement as printed was not provided despite our request to do so. Only electronic copies were provided as displayed below.
 - b. *When was the ad published?* For the August 21, 2023 hearing, the ads were published on .
 - c. *When was the second ad published?* For the September 11, 2023 hearing, the ads were published on August 28, 2023 and August 31, 2023 .
 - d. *When was the third ad published?* For the October 2, 2023 hearing, the ads were published on .

As Cumberland and Perry Counties are a joinder for Mental Health, Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities, and Drug & Alcohol Services, an additional hearing was held on September 28, 2023 at the Cumberland County Commissioners' Workshop and information pertaining to that hearing and public testimony is found in the Cumberland County plan.

8/21/23 Public Hearing Proof of Publication

PERRY COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN 2023-2024

9/11/23 Public Hearing Proofs of Publication

*** Proof of Publication ***

State of Indiana
County of Lake

I, Robin Nelson, Principal Legal Notices Clerk, of The Sentinel of Cumberland County and State of Pennsylvania, being duly sworn, deposes and says that THE SENTINEL, a newspaper of general circulation in the Borough of Carlisle, County and State aforesaid, was established December 13th, 1881. Since which date THE SENTINEL has been regularly issued in said County, and that the printed notice or publication attached hereto is exactly the same as was printed and published in the regular editions and issues of THE SENTINEL on the following day(s):

Cumberland/Perry MH/IDD Program

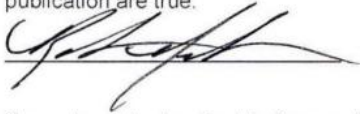
LEGALS

1615 RITNER HIGHWAY

CARLISLE PA 17013

ORDER NUMBER 63685

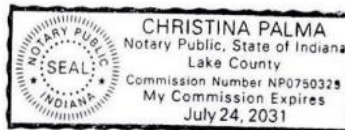
Affiant further deposes that he/she is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statement as to time, place and character of publication are true.



Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8/29/23

Christina Palma
Notary Public

My commission expires:



Section: Legal

Category: 0010 PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLISHED ON: 08/29/2023

Legal Notice

The public hearing on the 2023-2024 Mental Health component of the Cumberland/Perry Counties Human Services Plan has been scheduled by the Cumberland/Perry Counties Mental Health/Intellectual Developmental Disabilities Board.

The hearing is scheduled for Monday, September 11, 2023. Starting time is 10:00 am. The hearing will be held at the STAR, 253 Penrose Place, Carlisle, PA 17013.

The Pennsylvania Mental Health and Mental Retardation Act of 1966 states that the MH/IDD Board must hold a public hearing and that the date, time, and place of this hearing must be made public knowledge by informing the press, agencies, associations, institutions, and individuals whom are representative of the population served by this bi-county program. This hearing will be so arranged and conducted that anyone so desiring can ask questions, make an oral statement limited to ten (10) minutes, or submit a written statement concerning the Plan and Budget Request. Any verbal testimony must be accompanied by a written statement to be included in the Plan.

Copies of the Mental Health Component of the Human Services Plan Update and Budget Request will be available at the MH/IDD Program Office upon completion.

Dr. Christopher Royer, Chairperson
Cumberland/Perry MH/IDD Board
8/29 63685

PERRY COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN 2023-2024

Proof of Publication of Notice in

THE NEWS-CHRONICLE & VALLEY TIMES STAR

Cumberland Perry MH/IDD

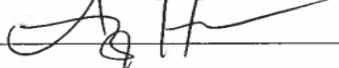
Legal

Amy Horn, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is the General Manager of "The News-Chronicle & Valley Times Star," which is a weekly newspaper of general circulation published in Shippensburg Borough, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, by Tuscarora Media Group LLC, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania having its principal place of business at 825 West King Street, Front (P.O. Box 100), Shippensburg, Pennsylvania; that she is authorized to and does make this affidavit on its behalf; that the printed notice, advertisement of publication attached hereto is the same as was printed in the regular editions and issues of "The News-Chronicle" and the Valley Times Star on the following date(s)

News Chronicle August 31, 2023

Copy of Notice of
Publication Attached

Affiant further deposes that neither he nor "The News-Chronicle" and Tuscarora Media Group LLC have any interest in the subject matters of the aforesaid notice or advertisement, and that the facts set forth in the foregoing affidavit is true and correct.



Sworn and subscribed before me this

31 Day of August, 2023



NOTARY PUBLIC

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
HARRY J HARTMAN - Notary Public
Adams County
My Commission Expires August 28, 2025
Commission Number 1276679

To: "The News-Chronicle"
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Legal Notice

The public hearing on the 2023-2024 Mental Health component of the Cumberland/Perry Counties Human Services Plan has been scheduled by the Cumberland/Perry Counties Mental Health/Intellectual Developmental Disabilities Board.

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The Pennsylvania Mental Health and Mental Retardation Act of 1966 states that the MH/IDD Board must hold a public hearing and that the date, time, and place of this hearing must be made public knowledge by informing the press, agencies, associations, institutions, and individuals whom are representative of the population served by this bi-county program. This hearing will be so arranged and conducted that anyone so desiring can ask questions, make an oral statement limited to ten (10) minutes, or submit a written statement concerning the Plan and Budget Request. Any verbal testimony must be accompanied by a written statement to be included in the Plan.

Copies of the Mental Health Component of the Human Services Plan Update and Budget Request will be available at the MH/IDD Program Office upon completion.

Dr. Christopher Royer, Chairperson
Cumberland/Perry MH/IDD Board

PERRY COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN 2023-2024

10/2/23 Public Hearing Proof of Publication

2. *Please submit a summary and/or sign-in sheet of each public hearing.*

Human Services Development Fund Public Hearing August 21, 2023

Present at the meeting were

Commissioners:

Brenda L. Watson – Vice Chairman
Larry F. Reisinger – Secretary
Shannon Hines – Chief Clerk

Present from the Press: None

Present from the Public in Person: Brandi Clendenin

Public Hearing: A public hearing was held in the Commissioners Conference Room at 1:01 p.m. for the purpose of public input for distribution of the FY 2023-2024 Human Services Development Funds (HSDF). HSDF affords counties the opportunity to develop services tailored to meet particular needs of individuals that may not be met within the categorical fund structure for low-income adults, older adults, dependent and delinquent children, person experiencing homelessness, and individuals with substance abuse disorders, mental health issues or intellectual disabilities. Four organizations had requested funding through HSDF to include Perry Human Service, Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 49, Neighbor Helping Neighbor Food Bank, and Cumberland-Perry Drug & Alcohol Commission.

Public Comments: None

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

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HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PUBLIC HEARING ATTENDANCE AND MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

In Attendance:

Jenn Custer – Aurora	Harold Armstrong – ShipDock	Candi Myers – PMHCA
Thom Fager - NAMI, Aurora	Brenda Jumper – STAR	Laura Jesic – STAR
Tyler Hoover - Aurora	Rebekah Lamb – STAR	Anthony House –
Penny Lumsden - Aurora	Dennis McCommons –	PerformCare
Tom Mulroy – Aurora	Recovery Insight	Carol Thornton – Partnership
Terry Portner – Aurora	Elwyn Andres – Recovery	for Better Health
Marie Reed - Aurora	Insight	Annie Strite – C-P MH.IDD
Dave Waggoner - Aurora	Chelsea Gernstein – STAR	Tracye Johnson – CABHC
Pat Lippert – Aurora	Sarah Sayed – ShipDock	Abby Robinson – CSS, Inc;
Robin Tolan – C-P MH Office	Faith Miller – ShipDock	C-P CSP
Angela Snyder – STAR	Jill Lee – ShipDock	Jessica Paul – CSS, Inc; C-P
Jason Studer – ShipDock	William Clarkson – ShipDock	CSP
Stanley Smith – ShipDock	Deb Helwig – CSS, Inc	Lydia Sellers - ShipDock
Karen Havnaer – STAR	Eddie – STAR	James - ShipDock
Dana DeFour – STAR	Brendon M – STAR	

A public hearing on the Mental Health component of the 2023-2024 Human Services Plan was held on Monday, September 11, 2023 in person at STAR, 253 Penrose Place, Carlisle and via Zoom. Mrs. Robin Tolan, Senior Human Services Program Manager, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. to review the draft plan document. A copy of the notice of the public hearing and the newspapers in which the hearing was advertised is included in this plan. The notes from this hearing will be maintained and will be a part of the plan that is submitted to the State.

This plan document is submitted on behalf of the Commissioners of Cumberland and Perry Counties and represents input from Cumberland/Perry MH/IDD Program, the Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Commission and the Cumberland County Aging & Community Services Office.

The document is comprised of five different parts - Mental Health, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Drug and Alcohol, Homeless Assistance Program and Human Services and Supports/Human Services Development Fund. Mrs. Tolan reviewed the MH component of this draft plan. It was noted that this document includes input from the CSP group, consumers, stakeholder groups, providers of human services, Cumberland/Perry Drug and Alcohol Commission, Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Services, and the Cumberland County Aging and Community Services. Also, there are ongoing meetings held throughout the year which provide input into this document.

Mrs. Tolan reviewed the various sections of the document which includes: the planning process, achievements, current services, and current initiatives. Mrs. Tolan provided a brief review of the goals which include the following:

1. Maintain and monitor current services and supports due to significant budget deficits;
2. Development of a Crisis Walk-in Center and Mobile Crisis Services to align with the SAMHSA best practice guidelines for Crisis Intervention Services;
3. PULSE Suicide Prevention Initiative in Cumberland and Perry Counties;

4. Implementing Elementary Student Assistance (ESAP) in one additional elementary school in each county;
5. Support county human service agencies to become Trauma Informed throughout the counties.

Several questions were asked with regard to funding and the possibility of program cuts. Concerns were raised about which programs would be cut and how that would impact those who use those services. Questions were also raised about the funds from the Behavioral Health Commission and what services will be implemented with those funds that are now allocated to school mental health.

Spoken and written testimony from Lydia Sellers was presented during the meeting. Mrs. Tolan confirmed that individuals are able to submit written testimony, questions and/or concerns after the close of this public hearing. Additional public hearings are scheduled for 9/28/23 and 10/2/23 during which public testimony may also occur.

The public hearing was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY PRESENTED on SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 at PUBLIC HEARING:

Lydia Sellers
ShipDock
9/11/23

ShipDock is very helpful to me. It is a place to socialize, relax, and have a good time. The staff is great and are always available to talk. It is nice to get out of the house and spend some time around people.

**Human Services Block Grant Public Hearing
Minutes
October 2, 2023**

DRAFT

PART III: CROSS-COLLABORATION OF SERVICES

For each of the following, please provide a description of how the county administers services collaboratively across categoricals and client populations. In addition, please explain how the county intends to leverage funds to link residents to existing opportunities and/or to generate new opportunities; and provide any updates to the county's collaborative efforts and any new efforts planned for the coming year.

Cross-collaboration is clearly evident within Perry County service providers, especially those receiving funds from the Human Services Block Grant (HSBG). The Perry County Family Service Partnership Board is a clear example of the regular collaboration of many agencies in addressing numerous community needs. A list of collaborative partners is found in Part I.

1. Employment:

Neighbor Helping Neighbor Food Bank works collaboratively around employment opportunities by posting job openings in Perry and Cumberland Counties, offering Literacy Council information which provides GED and training opportunities, and hosting job recruiters.

Perry Human Services connects service recipients with the Perry County Literacy Council, Join Hands Ministry and Tri-County Community Action for assistance in vocational pursuits.

The Perry County Disabled American Veterans office works closely with Join Hands Ministry, New Bloomfield VFW, Eagle House, Perry County Housing Partnership, County Veterans Service Officers (VSO) and Rabbit Transit to access employment opportunities.

Relevant information around employment opportunities and collaborations within the Mental Health or Intellectual Disabilities Programs is also available in Part III of the Cumberland County (CC) plan as those services are a joinder with Perry County.

2. Housing:

Perry Human Services (PHS) provides the Homeless Assistance program (HAP) and collaborates regularly with Perry Housing Partnership, Rental Assistance, Join Hands Ministry and Tri-County Community Action to support individuals with housing needs.

HAP case manager collaborates with a variety of other agencies to coordinate numerous other services for the HAP clients. These agencies are utilized as needed:

- Bread of Life Outreach - BOLO
- Domestic Violence Services for C/P Counties
- Join Hands – Collaborative Ministry
- Local landlords
- Local motel managers (Emergency Shelter lodging)
- Perry County Assistance Office
- Neighbor Helping Neighbor Food Bank
- Perry County Office of Aging
- Perry County Rental Assistance Office
- Perry Housing Partnership
- Perry Link to Aging & Disability Resources
- Redevelopment and Housing Authority of Cumberland County

- Social Security Office

- YWCA-Linda House

Perry County has a community collaborative board, Perry County Family Services Partnership Board. Through monthly meetings (1st Thursday), this board serves as the vehicle for coordinated planning and networking as the County continues to streamline and integrate services. PHS Executive Director is a member of the Perry County Family Services Partnership Board.

With regards to housing, Perry Human Services is the only provider for HAP services in the county.

Regarding Emergency Shelter, Perry Human Services is the initial financial provider for limited emergency shelter money. When those funds are depleted, PHS works with local assistance office, Join Hands and local churches for additional funds.

Subsidized housing or Rental Assistance continues to have a waiting period of a year or more before the client becomes eligible for this program. For our low-income clients who do not receive subsidies, we continually see a shortage of affordable housing.

With limited permanent emergency shelter facility in the county, providing emergency shelter for individuals or families is extremely difficult. Covering costs of a couple nights at a local motel really does not solve the problem. Many people calling for emergency shelter have no resources, including transportation and money, and no action plan for what happens next. Putting them in a motel which has no access to any resources or case management is a major concern. The need for an emergency shelter in Perry County remains a serious issue.

Neighbor Helping Neighbor Food Bank works collaboratively making referrals for housing to Perry Housing Partnership, Rental Assistance, and the Homeless Assistance Program at Perry Human Services.

Disabled American Veterans has strong connections with the Perry County Housing Partnership, Perry County Food Bank, Join Hands, New Bloomfield VFW, Eagle House, County VSO, and Rabbit Transit to support individuals with their housing needs.

Tri County Community Action (TCCA) provides family development and parenting education through the Perry County Family Center. TCCA also provides OnTrack and Operation HELP utility assistance through PPL, and works closely with the Perry County Food Bank, Perry County Children & Youth Agency, Join Hands Ministry, County Rental Assistance, Senior Services, and Early Education Centers to support individuals and families in gaining and maintaining self-sufficiency, housing, school-readiness, and employment.

Additional information regarding housing collaborations within the joiner services is available in this section of the CC plan as well as the Supportive Housing chart in the Mental Health section of the CC plan.

PART IV: HUMAN SERVICES NARRATIVE

CUMBERLAND PERRY MENTAL HEALTH & INTELLECTUAL & DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PROGRAM

In December 1967, a joint Mental Health & Mental Retardation program was established with the Boards of County Commissioners of Cumberland and Perry Counties in compliance with the Mental Health & Mental Retardation Act of 1966. The agency now known as Cumberland-Perry Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Program (C-P MH.IDD) operates as a department of Cumberland County government and serves residents of Cumberland and Perry Counties in need of those treatment services and rehabilitative supports. The county joinder agreement remains in effect today.

As a joinder with Cumberland County, please refer to the Cumberland County plan for information in these sections as the Perry County Commissioners are in agreement with the information presented for these joint services in the Cumberland County (CC) MH and IDD plans.

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES

The Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Commission (the Commission) has lead responsibility for planning and administering a continuum of substance use disorder prevention, intervention, and treatment services for Cumberland and Perry County residents. As a result of a longstanding joinder agreement between the Boards of County Commissioners in Cumberland County and Perry County, the Commission operates as a department of Cumberland County government and as one part of a broad system of county human services. The Commission serves as the Single County Authority (SCA) for Cumberland and Perry Counties in fulfillment of state contracts and regulations.

As a joinder with Cumberland County, please refer to the Cumberland County (CC) plan for information in this section as the Perry County Commissioners are in agreement with the information presented for these joint services in the Cumberland County Substance Use Disorder plan.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE SERVICES

The Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) assists individuals and families in achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency by stabilizing basic needs for housing through coordination of rental assistance. The emphasis is on prevention and intervention of homelessness.

The goal of HAP is stabilization of housing. HAP assists individuals to:

- maintain an individual in his or her own residence, or,
- in cases where eviction is imminent, assist with transition to alternate housing;
- move people into more stable, affordable housing;
- expedite the movement of people out of shelters and into existing housing.

HAP includes the coordination of supplemental rental assistance and security deposits for eligible clients in Perry County. Perry Human Services (PHS) collaborates with numerous community service agencies in Perry County and the tri-county area. These agencies include emergency shelters, Children and Youth organizations, the County Human Services Office, Social Security Administration, County Mental

Health/Intellectual Developmental Disability (MH/IDD) programs, Join Hands and other social service agencies offering other supportive services. Since clients are referred by agencies and landlords to Perry Human Services, it is important to maintain ongoing communication within this network.

Requests for housing assistance are made to Perry Human Services to avoid duplication in services and to provide more comprehensive planning. Perry Human Services continues to work closely with local agencies to provide a centralized process for emergency assistance to Perry County residents.

The HAP program assists Perry County residents who are experiencing housing problems to assess their current resources and potential for development. For our HAP program, PHS defines "resident" as an individual or family who has been living in the county for a minimum of six months. Assistance to prevent homelessness includes a service plan to develop stability in housing. The plan, goals, support services and client action steps are all developed with the client. The outcome is for client to achieve housing stabilization.

Verification of need occurs at the intake process. Client income eligibility will be at or below 200% of the poverty guidelines. The maximum amount a client may receive within a 24-month period is \$1000 for adult households or \$1500 for families with children. Client financial participation is encouraged, and each client will be individually assessed as to his/her ability to assist with the financial obligations towards security deposit or rent. Any assistance from a public source to assist the client with rent or security deposit will be included. HAP funds will only be used for rent or security deposits. Checks will be disbursed directly to the landlord upon application approval. Repeat clients will be reviewed on an individual basis by the case manager and Executive Director. Approval for partial or maximum assistance will then be at the discretion of the Executive Director. Section 8 and subsidized housing clients may be served if they complete and meet the application requirements and have approval by the Executive Director. The intake process includes documentation that shows the landlord's willingness to continue to rent to the client while the HAP application is being processed.

Client Intake Procedures

Clients are interviewed to determine:

- Nature of the problem
- On-going sources of income
- Additional current resources
- Rental history
- Other problems/needs having a relationship to achieving housing stability
- Family composition

A plan is developed to:

- Address immediate housing needs through landlord negotiation, legal remedies, financial resources development or assistance;
- Address long-range housing needs through budget counseling, referrals to appropriate community resources;
- Address client responsibility for self-sufficiency.

Target Populations include:

- (a) The homeless as well as individuals in shelters.
- (b) Clients leaving bridge housing programs.
- (c) Individuals notified of potential homelessness (eviction and code violations)
- (d) Drug and Alcohol clients leaving 90 day treatment programs.

(e) Victims of natural disasters such as fires, floods or storms.

These populations could include persons within the first six months of entry-level employment; individuals on limited low income; veteran's pension recipients; persons receiving public assistance and social security (disability); persons being served by MH/IDD programs.

Eligible clients are individuals or families who:

(a) Have been housed in a local shelter or bridge-housing program;
(b) Are financially needy (having incomes at or below 200% of the poverty guidelines) and who are homeless or near homeless:

- Homeless must be residing in:

- group shelter
- domestic violence safe home
- motel paid for with public funds
- mental health, drug or alcohol facility
- jails
- living in condemned building
- living in inadequate housing where conditions are life-threatening (examples-lack of plumbing, heat or utilities, dangerous structural defects)

Homeless clients may also include those families facing foster care placement of their children solely because of lack of housing. This includes the need for housing to allow reunification with children who are in foster care placement. Homeless designation also includes people living with relatives who must be out in a limited time because their presence violates the relative's lease.

- Near homeless

- individuals or families facing eviction
- families facing foster-care placement of children because of lack of adequate housing or threat of eviction

(c) Show promise of being able to afford their housing of choice after termination of the Homeless

Assistance payment and associated services;

(d) Have an agreement with a landlord to rent to them;
(e) Need assistance in relocation efforts after a disaster.

Clients may receive financial assistance until the maximum cap is reached. However, clients may remain in the program for as long as they continue to participate in the case management plan and attempt to resolve the identified issues that led to the housing problem. This continued support helps strengthen the effort to stabilize the long-term environment of the client.

Each client (post crisis) will be contacted at six months following discharge to assess additional needs and review support services. Tracking of clients occurs by telephone to client or client's landlord. The majority of supportive services will be provided through the service planning/case management service currently available through Perry Human Services. Any additional support services will be contacted on an as needed basis.

Finding permanent, affordable housing for clients within Perry County continues to be a difficult process. Because of limited housing resources in Perry County, finding housing for an individual has required a concerted effort between the client and the caseworker. Perry Human Services has compiled a listing of landlords. Through this listing and other resources (i.e., newspapers) the caseworker assists the client as he/she looks for housing.

Bridge Housing: Not provided with HAP or HSDF Block Grant Funds. Bridge (Transitional) Housing in Perry County is provided by Perry Housing Partnership which utilizes other funding sources for its transitional housing.

Case Management:

- *Please describe the case management services offered. Include achievements and improvements in services to families at risk or experiencing homelessness, as well as unmet needs and gaps.*

Case Management is provided by Perry Human Services (PHS) to clients seeking help who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. Beginning with the intake process, case management provides a series of coordinated activities to assist individuals and families to prevent the reoccurrence of homelessness. The level and extent of case management varies with each client and continues through discharge. Case management also includes follow-up with clients who have been discharged. The case manager attempts a two-month follow-up with clients who completed an intake but were not eligible for a rental assistance grant. For clients receiving a rental assistance grant, the case manager contacts the client's landlord or client for a six-month follow-up to assess whether the individual/family continues housing stabilization.

PHS Case Manager works with the clients on budgeting. This can occur through individual budgeting sessions or through a group budgeting class. All clients requesting financial help with rent or security deposit are required to attend either individual or group budgeting sessions before being approved for a housing grant. This service has been very beneficial for our clients in providing instruction on financial management, including use of credit cards and budgeting skills.

- *How does the county evaluate the efficacy of case management services? Please provide a brief summary of case management services results*

As of June 2022, for 2021-2022 fiscal year, 31 intakes have been completed using case management and 12 rental assistance grants have been awarded.

A two-month follow-up phone contact was made by a housing case manager to 4 clients who did not qualify for a rental assistance grant. For those 4 clients, 4 reported being stable housing, whether that means living with family/friends or in their own place.

As of June 2023, for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, 27 intakes have been completed using case management services, and 20 rental assistance grants have been awarded.

A two-month follow-up phone contact was made by a housing case manager to all 27 intakes. For those 27 clients, 27 reported being stable housing, whether that means living with family/friends or in their own place, 3 reported to owing back rent, 3 were living with friends or family, 1 was still looking, and 3 did not answer.

- *Please describe any proposed changes to case management services for FY 23-24.*

For this year we believe there will be an increase in case management service hours. Our agency experienced some changes in case management staffing this past fiscal year. With review of the 22-23

stats, we anticipate that the need for payee services will continue to require additional case management hours throughout the 23-24 fiscal year.

Rental Assistance:

- *Please describe the rental assistance services offered. Include achievements and improvements in services to families experiencing or at risk for homelessness, as well as unmet needs and gaps.*

Rental Assistance provides payment for rents and/or security deposits to prevent and/or end homelessness or near homelessness for individuals/families who qualify for grants.

Perry Human Services defines "resident" as an individual or family who has been living in the county for a minimum of six months. The length of time a client will remain in the program will depend on immediate needs and client participation in the development and follow-through of a case plan to resolve identified issues leading to housing problems. The plan, goals, support services and client action steps are developed with the client. The outcome is for client to achieve housing stabilization.

Requests for rental assistance are made to Perry Human Services to avoid duplication of services and to provide more comprehensive planning. PHS case manager works closely with local agencies to centralize the process for emergency shelter and housing assistance to Perry County residents.

Community service agencies that PHS case manager collaborates with for clients includes but is not limited to Perry County Assistance Office, Rental Assistance Office, Perry Housing Partnership, Social Security Administration, County Mental Health/Intellectual Developmental Disabilities programs, Join Hands Ministries, and other social service agencies offering supportive services. Since clients are referred by agencies and landlords to Perry Human Services, it is important to maintain ongoing communication within this network.

As previously discussed in the Case Management section, rental assistance clients are required to participate in either individual budgeting sessions to receive a rental assistance grant. Case manager also conducts a two-month follow-up contact for rental assistance clients not receiving a grant and a six-month follow-up for clients who receive a grant.

Verification of need occurs at the intake process. Client income eligibility will be at or below 200% of the poverty guidelines. The maximum amount a client may receive will be \$1000 for adult households or \$1500 for families with children within a 24-month period. Client financial participation is encouraged, and each client will be individually assessed as to his/her ability to assist with the financial obligations towards security deposit or rent. Any assistance from a public source to assist the client with rent or security deposit will be included. Rental Assistance funds will only be used for rent or security deposits. Checks will be disbursed directly to the landlord upon application approval. Repeat clients will be addressed and reviewed on an individual basis by the case manager and Executive Director. Approval for partial or maximum assistance will then be at the discretion of the Executive Director. Section 8 and subsidized housing clients may be served if they complete and meet the application requirements and have approval by the Executive Director. The intake process includes verification of eviction and documentation that shows the landlord's willingness to continue to rent to the client while the HAP application is being processed.

- *How does the county evaluate the efficacy of rental assistance services? Please provide a brief summary of rental assistance services results.*

As of June 2022 for 2021-2022 fiscal year, 31 intakes have been completed using case management and 12 rental assistance grants have been awarded.

As of June 2023, for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, 27 intakes have been completed using case management and 20 rental assistance grants have been awarded.

- *Please describe any proposed changes to rental assistance services for FY 23-24.*

There are no proposed changes for rental assistance services for FY 23-24.

Emergency Shelter

- *Please describe the emergency shelter services offered. Include achievements and improvements in services to families at risk or experiencing homelessness, as well as unmet needs and gaps.*

This service assists individuals and families who are homeless and in immediate need of emergency housing. Perry County does not have a permanent emergency shelter. The Emergency Shelter Program (ESP) allows Perry Human Services to cover the cost of a room at a local motel for homeless individuals and families for a limited amount of nights.

Because HAP funds have been reduced significantly over the past several years, ESP funds have also been reduced significantly and are very limited. All clients requesting emergency shelter are screened as to their immediate need and whether other emergency living arrangements are available. Emergency Shelter is limited to no more than seven consecutive days unless exception request approved by DHS.

Individuals with income are expected to pay as much of the cost as possible. Those who are without resources are assisted in acquiring increased financial stability. PHS may work with these individuals with the long-range goal of permanent housing and a stable environment. Emergency shelter clients may be referred to the Perry Housing Partnership for Transitional Housing and/or other shelters outside the county.

- *How does the county evaluate the efficacy of emergency shelter services? Please provide a brief summary of emergency shelter services results.*

For 2021-2022 through June 1, 2022, 4 emergency screenings have been completed, 43 nights of shelter given. A total of 11 people were given nights of emergency shelter at a local motel. Most persons calling about emergency shelter were assisted in brain-storming other housing options with family/friends and/or given shelter numbers outside Perry County. Several were referred to Perry Housing Partnership for transitional housing.

For 2022-2023, as of June 2023, 4 emergency screenings were completed, via phone or telehealth, and 0 nights of shelter were given.

- *Please describe any proposed changes to emergency shelter services for FY 23-24.*

There are no changes proposed for 2023-2024.

Other Housing Supports: No Other Housing Supports are provided through HAP or HSDF Block Grant funds.

There is limited Transitional Housing available which is provided through Perry Housing Partnership. HAP and/or HSDF Block Grant Funds are not used in this program.

HMIS

- *Please describe the current status of the county's implementation of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Does every Homeless Assistance provider enter data into HMIS?*

Perry Human Services (PHS) HAP case manager has been trained in HMIS, but the agency is not currently using HMIS as part of its data collection. PHS continues to utilize this agency's own data collection system.

HUMAN SERVICES AND SUPPORTS/HUMAN SERVICES DEVELOPMENT FUND

For each of these categories (Adult Services, Aging Services, Children and Youth Services, Generic Services and Specialized Services), please use the fields and dropdowns to describe how the county intends to utilize HSDF funds on allowable expenditures.

ADULT SERVICES:

Program Name: **Perry Human Services (PHS) Adult Services**

Description of Services: PHS Adult Services Program utilizes HSDF funds for Case Management for the homeless assistance program that assists individuals/families in achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency by stabilizing basic needs for housing through coordination of rental assistance. Case Management assists individuals in identifying areas of need and then developing and implementing service plans to meet those needs. Service planning and case management services are a series of coordinated staff activities. These services are designed to determine with client input what services are needed and to coordinate the provision of these services. Case Management can include a wide range of activities. An initial step always includes a thorough exploration of the service needs of the individual and discussions with the client of the available and acceptable service options. Once the extent of need is determined, a service plan is prepared in cooperation with and in agreement with the client. What follows is the involvement of the case manager to assure the prompt arrangement of services using those providers acceptable to the client, and then continue to network with all providers serving the client. This often requires personal advocacy for the client to ensure the satisfactory delivery of service and monitoring the continuity and continued appropriateness of the services. As with all PHS services a follow-up is conducted whenever possible to ensure client satisfaction and to offer additional services as needed.

Service Category: Service Planning/Case Management – a series of coordinative staff activities to determine with the client what services are needed and to coordinate their timely provision by the provider and other resources in the community.

Program Name: Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 49 Transportation Program serving Perry County Veterans 18 – 59

Description of Services: HSDF provides funding through DAV Chapter 49 for providing transportation for adult Veterans in need of free Transportation to their medical, mental, and dental appointments throughout Perry County, PA. as well as free transportation for adult Veterans to pick up needed food (50-lbs) from Perry County's Military Food Share program, at the New Bloomfield VFW, the last Thursday of every month. Additionally, we make stops to and from these appointments to allow our adult Veterans to go to bank, grocery stores, etc. to meet their basic needs, not met through other sources.

Service Category: Transportation (Passenger) – Activities which enable individuals to travel to and from community facilities to receive social and medical service, or otherwise promote independent living. The service is provided only if there are no other appropriate resources.

Program Name: Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 49 Veterans in Need (VIN) Program 18- 59

Description of Services: Request HSDF funding through DAV Chapter 49 for providing financial assistance to adult Veterans and their families not able to utilize other services available. Each client is screened based on their income versus expenses and screened to determine eligibility. We use a VIN application form submitted through Perry County Veteran Service Officer with all bills attached. We have at least 4 VIN committee members review and approve or disapprove request. We then pay bills directly to billing agency and not to individuals. Financial emergencies and hardships we pay as related to financial emergencies due to sudden unemployment without compensation, accidents, car repairs, unable to pay utilities, out of oil in winter and no funds, out of food, house burnt down, etc. We refer them to other Perry County agencies such as Food Bank, social services, housing partnership, Join Hands, American Legions or Veterans of Foreign Wars, etc. We exhaust other avenues and then we review request for assistance. We do not use funding for hardships resulting from unfavorable actions such as substance abuse, DUI, court costs, etc.

We partner with several Perry County agencies such as Perry County Housing Partnership, the Eagle House, Office of Aging, Food Bank, Social Services, Counseling, Join Hands, American Legions, Veterans of Foreign Wars, etc.

Service Category: Service Planning/Case Management – a series of coordinative staff activities to determine with the client what services are needed and to coordinate their timely provision by the provider and other resources in the community.

AGING SERVICES:

Program Name: Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 49 Transportation Program serving Perry County Veterans 60+

Description of Services: HSDF provides funding through DAV Chapter 49 for providing transportation, including the majority of disabled Senior Veterans, in need of free Transportation to their medical, mental,

and dental appointments throughout state of PA. As well as free transportation for Veterans, which are primarily disabled, home-bound Senior Veterans, to have food (50-lbs) from Perry County's Military Food Share program, on the last Thursday of every month delivered to their homes. We also make stops to and from their appointments to allow our Senior Veterans to go to bank, grocery stores, etc. to meet their basic needs, not met through other sources.

Service Category: Transportation (Passenger) - Activities which enable individuals to travel to and from community facilities to receive social and medical service, or otherwise promote independent living.

Program Name: Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 49 Veterans in Need (VIN) Program 60+

Description of Services: Request HSDF funding through DAV Chapter 49 for providing financial assistance to Senior Veterans and their families not able to utilize other services available. Each client is screened based on their income vice expenses and screened to determine eligibility. We use a VIN application form submitted through Perry County Veteran Service Officer with all bills attached. We have a Chair, Terri Lynn, with at least 4 VIN committee members review and approve or disapprove request. We then pay bills directly to billing agency and not to individuals. Financial emergencies and hardships we pay as related to financial emergencies due to sudden unemployment without compensation, accidents, car repairs, unable to pay utilities, out of oil in winter, out of food, etc. (We also refer them to other Perry County agencies if we cannot assist or to supplement what we can give.) We exhaust other avenues and then we review request for assistance. We have trained other Veteran Organizations to start their own Veterans in Need program.

Service Category: Service Planning/Case Management – a series of coordinative staff activities to determine with the client what services are needed and to coordinate their timely provision by the provider and other resources in the community.

SPECIALIZED SERVICES:

HSDF funds are utilized to provide specialized services through the Neighbor Helping Neighbor Food Bank and Perry Human Services.

Program Name: Neighbor Helping Neighbor Food Bank

Description of Services: We are dedicated to provide supplemental food services for seniors, children, individuals, and families within the County who are food insecure. Located at 300 A South Carlisle St, New Bloomfield 17068, this emergency food pantry offers to help supplement the food budget of qualified Perry County households. Our mission remains unchanged. The HSDF grant is essential in helping us meet the food needs of our community.

Program Name: Representative Payee Service

Description of Services: Provided by Perry Human Services Adult Service Program, this Representative Payee Service is provided to individuals who cannot effectively manage their own financial obligations. Reasons for this need may include mental and physical disadvantages as well as lack of skill and education. Perry Human Services addresses this need through case management. This includes developing a workable budget and budget counseling, agency networking to provide all available services, applications for financial assistance where needed and establishing and managing bank accounts. The service provides accountability to the Social Security Administration and the Perry County Board of Assistance for the use of these monies. Case Management includes re-determination to ensure revenues and services continue without interruption. Types of clients receiving Representative Payee Services include adults with IDD living independently and those individuals unable to financially manage their households resulting in a debtor situation. Many of our Representative Payee clients have been with PHS for many years and been able to maintain living in the community with this support.

INTERAGENCY COORDINATION:

HSDf is not utilized for interagency coordination.