



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Aging and Adult Services**


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DAAS Administrative Letter No. DAAS 11-14

To: Area Agencies on Aging
Senior Center Directors
HCCBG Providers
DAAS

From: Dennis W. Streets 

Subject: Consumer Contributions and Donations for Senior Centers

Date: October 4, 2011

The purpose of the Consumer Contributions Policy is to extend the availability of in-home and community-based services administered by the North Carolina Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) and the North Carolina Division of Social Services (DSS) by soliciting from recipients of specific services a portion of the cost of services rendered based on their ability and willingness to contribute. Revenues collected from service recipients are retained by the local service provider and used to increase the services to existing clients and/or provide in-home and community-based services to other individuals in need of such services.

DAAS has revised the Consumer Contributions Policy to address two issues:

1. Due to the elimination of state funding for Senior Center Outreach and Senior Center Development, DAAS has revised the Consumer Contributions Policy as it is no longer applicable to these services.
2. DAAS has added a footnote to Senior Center Operations in Section III-B where it appears in the list of Type IV services. This footnote differentiates between a donation and a consumer contribution by a senior center participant.

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3. DAAS has also revised the Consumer Contributions Policy to more clearly define a “contribution” versus a “donation.” These definitions are as follows:

Contribution - A monetary amount given to the service provider by the service recipient or their designated representative toward the cost of a specific service.

Note: If a senior center participant indicates the gift should be earmarked for a specific service or activity supported by Senior Center Operations funds, then it should be considered a consumer contribution which would require the accounting that goes with the collection of consumer contributions, i.e. ARMS entries, etc.

Donation - A donation is not reported as a Consumer Contribution because it is not earmarked to support any specific service. A gift from a service recipient or their designated representative (i.e. churches, the general public, family members of the service recipients, etc.) may be considered a donation when it is not given for a specific service the individual is receiving. Senior Center Operation funds are not considered to be a specific service that an individual receives; therefore, senior centers may accept donations from participants to be used for general senior center expenditures such as repairs, activities, furniture, etc. A donation can be in the form of cash, materials or other tangible items which have a defined value.

Please feel free to contact Gary Cyrus or Kim Jacobs at (919) 733-8390 if you have any questions.

Attachment (Consumer Contributions Policy)