



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Social Services

325 North Salisbury Street • 2410 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2410
Courier # 56-20-25

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

Sherry S. Bradsher, Director
(919) 733-3055

April 15, 2011

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES FUNDING

The Division has Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) funding available to authorize to each county department of social services (DSS). The authorization is intended to be effective for services provided May 2011 through September 2011. However, **the Division needs the attached questionnaire completed and sent electronically, faxed or mailed to the Division in order to fulfill a funding authorization. No response to the questionnaire indicates that the county DSS is declining the available funding.**

Utilizing FVPSA funding does require a 25% non-Federal dollar cash match from the county DSS.

The attached spreadsheet showing the amount of FVPSA funds available to each county is calculated based on the number of domestic violence victims served in each county during SFY 2009-2010 as reported by the NC Council for Women. Counties will also have the opportunity to ask for additional FVPSA funding through their response in the questionnaire. FVPSA funds are Federal grant dollars that are subject to availability.

After county DSS respond, there will be an initial SFY 2011 funding authorization in May 2011 that will show the total amount of FVPSA funds authorized for domestic violence services beginning in May. Another SFY 2012 funding authorization will be released in July 2012 showing any remaining carry over FVPSA funds from SFY2011. The total funding amount that encompasses part of Federal Fiscal Year 2011 is for domestic violence services provided May 2011 through September 2011. The final deadline to draw down reimbursable payment of FVPSA funding from the Division for any domestic violence services provided from May through September 2011 is through a DSS-1571 submitted in November 2011.

The approved services/expenditures listed on the Guidelines for TANF/DV Funds are also the approved services/expenditures for FVPSA services. Like with TANF/DV funding, DSS staff time to screen and provide a referral to a DV agency continues to be non-reimbursable. A continued practice is that the local domestic violence agency should provide a thorough domestic violence assessment with the client to determine the need for services. A DSS worker would continue to ensure there is a client's signature on a Client Entry Form (DSS-5027) and provide reimbursement to the DV agency and or other vendor providers for the purchase of approved services/assistance.

Please note that there are some differences between TANF/DV and FVPSA funding. When utilizing FVPSA funds, **there is no TANF eligibility requirement on the part of the client being served.** Services to victims of domestic violence utilizing FVPSA funding **does not have to meet citizenship requirements nor requirements to have children in the home.**

If TANF/DV Funds are available in the county and the client is TANF eligible, TANF/DV funds must be utilized for domestic violence services.

The **Services Information System (SIS)** manual service code to be utilized on DSS-5027 is **353** and Administrative Costs Report (DSS-1571) part IV for the purchased services provided to the client **Fund ID is "V."** Refer to the [SIS User Manual](#) for further information on family violence services listed on page B-29 of the Manual.

DSS and domestic violence agencies can utilize their TANF/DV plan and memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the use of these FVPSA funds. The TANF/DV Plan and MOU "Dear County Director" (DCD) letter will be released shortly and will contain more specific information regarding the 2011-2012 TANF/DV Plan and MOU planning process. Right now is an excellent time to continue collaborating with the local domestic violence service provider to ensure that the service needs of domestic violence victims/survivors are being met in the community utilizing FVPSA funding assistance, TANF/DV funding assistance and other supports available to the community.

As with last Federal Fiscal Year, if FVPSA funding is authorized, **there will be data reporting requirements** for the use of FVPSA funds in **Alleghany, Avery, Burke, Clay, Cleveland, Durham, Forsyth, Graham, Granville, Halifax, Harnett, Hoke, Hyde, Montgomery, Moore, Person, Stanly, Swain, Tyrrell, and Vance** counties. There is not currently a FVPSA funded DV agency in these communities that would be able to continue tracking the Federal data reporting requirements. A spreadsheet to assist with recording these required data fields will be provided to these counties. Also, a separate letter/invitation will be emailed to these counties encouraging the DSS and DV agencies to join a webinar event to address any data reporting requirement questions.

Please send a completed attached questionnaire via email (scanned/electronic signature), fax or mail to Rick Zechman **no later than April 29, 2011 to:**

eric.zechman@dhhs.nc.gov

Fax 919-334-1147

If by Fedex:

325 N. Salisbury St. Room 779
Raleigh, NC 27603

Or

325 N. Salisbury St.
2410 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2410

An emailed confirmation will be provided upon receipt of the questionnaire.

Any questions regarding this letter should be directed to Rick Zechman via email at eric.zechman@dhhs.nc.gov or by phone at (919) 334-1108.

Sincerely,



Kevin Kelley, Interim Section Chief
Child Welfare Services

Attachments:

[FVPSA Questionnaire](#)
[Available FVPSA Funding](#)

cc: Sherry Bradsher
Kathy Sommese
Dean Simpson
Hank Bowers
Domestic Violence Service Agencies
Children's Program Representatives
Work First Program Consultants
Local Business Liaisons