

## American Rescue Plan-Enhanced FMAP: Proposals for the Portal

### Immediate Support for Providers

**Relief Payments for HCBS (Coalition):** Ohio will support providers by releasing 2 'lump-sum' relief payments between now and early 2022. These payments may be structured similarly to the relief payments providers received through the Appendix K in 2020, releasing approximately 20% of yearly revenue for each qualified provider. These payments are intended to support providers who have had increased expenses in PPE, sanitation, overtime, administration and other unexpected expenses due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Payments will be released to providers in the Fall of 2021 and again in early 2022.

**Total Costs:** Approximately \$385 including both state and matching funds

**Methodology:** Historic data indicates Ohio pays approximately \$38M/week to providers. 20% payments to all eligible providers would then equal roughly \$385M.

**Relief Payments for ICF (OPRA):** Similar to the proposal above, providers of Intermediate Care Facilities services will be supported through two 2-week payments. ICF providers have also seen spending increases in PPE, cleaning, increased staffing costs and compliance with Federal guidelines. The payments would be released in the Fall of 2021 and in early 2022.

**Total Costs:** Approximately \$44M including state and matching funds.

**Methodology:** DODD projections have indicated that total yearly spending for Ohio's ICF program equals approximately \$570M/yr for FY2022. Two 2 week payments would equal just under \$44M when applied to the yearly totals. These funds could come from additional ARPA dollars not subject to EFMAP.

**Transportation Support (Coalition):** In order to follow state guidance and keep people safe from COVID-19, providers have been operating at a greatly reduced capacity when transporting people to services and other community activities/supports. Given the operational and funding challenges of a reduced-capacity model, Ohio will institute an enhanced rate for providers of Non-Medical Transportation for I/DD Transportation providers. The rate enhancement will be an additional \$10 per trip and will be retroactively effective for the duration of Ohio's State of Emergency, resulting in a payment for those providers for transportation services delivered during this time.

**Total Costs:** Approximately \$45.5M including state and matching funds

**Methodology:** Providers have delivered an approximate average of \$1.5M in Transportation services per week throughout the pandemic/SOE. An increase in \$10/trip to the services delivered during the 61 weeks of the pandemic would equal an estimated \$45.5M.

**Intensive Need Support (OPRA):** Pandemic-era relief for providers of day and vocational services for Ohioans with Disabilities did not include supports for did not include additional support for those supporting people with more complex support needs. Ohio will institute a retroactive enhanced service rate of an additional 20% of the daily rate for individuals assessed at an 'Acuity C' support level to ensure that Ohioans

with more complex needs can continue receive services in a way that is safe, sustainable and relieve providers who have been working tirelessly to keep the most vulnerable Ohioans safe, healthy and happy. The retroactive payment will span the length of Ohio's State of Emergency.

**Cost:** Approximately \$7.5M State and Matching Funds

**Methodology:** During Ohio's State of Emergency, Ohio spent approximately \$185M on Adult and Vocational supports. Data shows that about 20% of individuals served in that program are assessed at a C acuity, requiring the highest supervision levels. The enhanced payment rate, an additional \$26/day would equal roughly \$7.5M in funds to support.

### **Strengthening the Workforce for Home and Community Based Services (Both of these incorporated into \$50M Coalition WCTF Proposal)**

**Workforce Development:** Ohio will allocate ARPA funding to grant funds for providers to enhance and expand their workforce recruitment, retention and development efforts. Providers may apply for funding for specifically for to implement or enhance marketing and promotional activities, on-boarding practices, retention bonuses, training development and other efforts to directly aid workforce efforts.

**Total Costs:** \$10M in state/enhanced FMAP funds (no matching funds)

**Methodology:** No specific methodology. Funding needs based on provider application and volume of responding providers.

**School/Education Outreach:** Ohio will allocate ARPA funds for to support eligible agencies in outreach efforts to secondary and post-secondary schools to introduce students to the DD service field and help connect local education agencies to providers and DD system partners. Funding includes allowances for staff, material and curriculum development, and/or stipends for potential student internships.

**Total Costs:** \$5M in enhanced FMAP funds (no matching funds)

**Methodology:** Funding needs based on provider application and volume of responding entities.

### **Reimbursement and Expansion of Services**

**Enhanced Rate for Specialized Staff (OPRA):** In order to address the workforce crisis and retain and attract caring, qualified professionals, Ohio will enact an enhanced rate that compensates providers for services rendered by staff who have established longevity, specialized training and/or education and who perform specialized services including therapeutic interventions for those with complex support needs, paramedical care, and supports to Multi-system youth, as examples. The rate should be able to support a wage of at least \$18/hr for those staff.

**Total Costs:** Approximately \$165M/Year State and Matching Funds

**Methodology:** Of the professionals working in Ohio, we believe roughly 30% of them would be eligible for the rate enhancements. Raising the wages of those staff to \$18

would represent an approximate 26.5% increase in wages/rates. Utilizing FY 2021 budget numbers, we believe this would cost a total of approximately \$165M in total funds, \$60M of which would be state funds.