



*The Campaign to* **STRENGTHEN  
HUMAN SERVICES**  
*IMPROVE CARE • RETAIN QUALITY STAFF  
ENHANCE ECONOMIC IMPACT*

April 27, 2020

Dear Collaborative Executives,

As you know, The Collaborative has been working with EOHHS to detail our extraordinary staffing, PPE, interim staff housing, cleaning and other COVID-19 related costs and the need for human service provider staff to receive premium pay consistent with other human service employees. Over the course of the past week, several Collaborative members presented EOHHS with financial data outlining their agency's unique costs. One of the outcomes of this exercise was to see how differently and creatively agencies used the initial investment of \$95 million to address COVID-19 needs. For instance, some providers were already providing various staff differentials, providing premium pay for quarantined homes and setting up separate COVID-19 units with associated staffing costs.

As a result of our meetings with EOHHS and the data provided by Collaborative members, we are very pleased to announce that an additional \$44 million dollars will be provided to community-based provider programs for extraordinary COVID-19 related costs for the months of May and June. One of the goals of EOHHS was to preserve provider flexibility in how agencies addressed their additional staffing and other related costs. As you are aware, the initial COVID-19 investment reimbursed providers for 10% over their average contracted billing amounts (for the months of November, December and January). In addition to the 10% for March and April, providers will receive an additional 15% for a total of 25% above contracted amounts for the months of May and June.

Along with this funding will come reporting requirements to ensure that it is used for staff wages, infection control, PPE and other direct staff supports. A uniform reporting template and more details are forthcoming.

Thank you for your advocacy and support over the past week. We are very grateful for our partnership with EOHHS and their understanding and responsiveness to the data that was presented on your behalf.

Lydia Conley

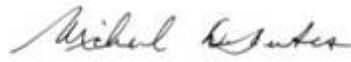
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