TO: Nursing Home Administrators

FROM: Manisha Juthani, MD, Commissioner

CC: Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA
    Adelita Orefice, MPM, JD, CHC, Senior Advisor to the Commissioner
    Kim Hriceniak, RN, Public Health Services Manager, FLIS
    Cheryl Davis, RN, Public Health Services Manager, FLIS

DATE: August 5, 2022

SUBJECT: Nursing Home Visitation and Request for Civil Money Penalties (CMP) Funds

On February 2, 2022, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released revised QSO Memo 20-39, QSO-20-39-NH REVISED (cms.gov) which provided guidance for visitation and the use of CMP funds to aid in visitation. Facilities may request CMP funds to assist with the purchase of portable fans and portable air cleaners with high efficiency particulate air (HEPA, H-13 or-14) to improve air quality. As a cautionary reminder, facilities using these funds must do so in compliance with life safety code requirements found at 42 CFR 483.90, unless these requirements are waived under the Public Health Emergency declaration.

CMS has streamlined the approval process related to the use of CMP funds to support visitation by delegating to the State Survey Agency, the Department of Public Health, the authority to review and approve CMP requests that will enhance visitation and meet CMS parameters. Funding requests are limited to a maximum of $3,000 per facility for allowable fans/air cleaners. The attached application must include the following:

1. Request for funds is limited to the purchase of portable fans and portable air cleaners. DPH will not approve any requests for items that are prohibited as noted below;
2. Applications must ensure that Life Safety Code (LSC) requirements found at 42 CFR 483.90 are met, unless waived under the Public Health Emergency declaration;

3. Application must demonstrate the appropriate level of visitation restrictions within available guidelines from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), e.g. limiting the number of individuals visiting any one resident.

Expenses that are prohibited include the following:
- Replacement filters
- Portable air conditioning or heating units
- Fans
- COVID-19 testing and testing equipment
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Portable fire extinguishers of approved types
- Disinfectant and cleaning supplies
- No smoking signage
- Administrative fees
- Indirect costs
- Travel expenses

Should you have any questions and/or if you are interested in requesting a CMP grant, not to exceed $3,000, please contact or complete the attached application and submit to Kim Hriceniak R.N. at kim.hriceniak@ct.gov

2. Enter your credentials (Username and Password) and click Login

3. Click “CMP2 Request” tab
4. To submit a CMP2 request form, click “Initiate CMP2 Request”

5. Select the facility and complete the form.

6. Click “Add New Air Quality Aids Line Item” to add the line items for the CMP2 request. You can add more than one line items with the request by keep repeating this step. The line items you added to the request will be displayed in the table below.
7. Finally click “Submit” at the end of this form to submit the CMP2 request to DPH.

How to view the successfully submitted CMP2 request to DPH for your facility?

When you select “CMP2 Request” tab you will see all the successfully submitted CMP2 requests to DPH along with the status of the request.