

The background features a large, semi-transparent circle with a gradient from light purple to light orange. A vertical bar with a gradient from light purple to light orange is positioned on the left side of the circle. The text is centered within the circle.

# MISCELLANEOUS GOVERNMENT BENEFITS TOPICS

# WHAT WE WILL COVER

- Housing Support
- Child Care Assistance Program
- Medicaid Unwinding
- EBT Skimming

# HOUSING SUPPORT (FKA GROUP RESIDENTIAL HOUSING)

- Program for low-income people with disabilities and older adults
- Helps pay for housing and things people need to stay housed in the community
- Payments made directly to provider

# THREE REQUIREMENTS

For Housing Support to be paid, three requirements must be met:

- 1) Recipient is eligible for the Housing Support program
- 2) Recipient is working with an eligible Housing Support provider who has a written agreement with the county;
- 3) Recipient has a place to live that is eligible for Housing Support

\*The provider and landlord are sometimes the same, but not always. More typical in supportive housing setting that includes services.\*

# CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY

- Must be over 65 or have a disability, and
- Have a GA basis of eligibility, or
  - *Get GA, or would if had lower income and assets*
- Have an SSI basis of eligibility
  - *Get SSI, or would if had lower income and assets*

# FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY

- Countable income must be below the highest possible combined amount that Housing Support would pay provider for room & board and services
  - Room & Board Max = \$1170
  - Services Max = \$494.91
- Can find the rules under Minn. Stat. 2561.03, subd. 7

# SERVICES

- Most people on Housing Support get services through an MA-waiver program
- If HS recipient does not qualify for a waiver program can get some services through HS (e.g., homemaker, ILS, medication management)
  - Amount paid is capped at \$494.91

# HOUSING SETTINGS

- Adult Foster Care: 1-5 people w/ disabilities and older adults who have own bedrooms and get some services from an on-site caregiver
- Assisted Living Facilities (FKA nursing homes): housing and services, typically for more than 5 people
- Board and Lodge: 5 or more people live in their own or shared bedrooms and have common shared spaces (no built-in services)
- Supportive Housing: independent apartments or shared housing where each resident has their own lease, can prepare their own food, and get supportive services



# COMMON ISSUES

- Finding eligible housing: must be habitable per MN DHS rules
- Absence, Housing Support will only pay up to 60 days per year
  - 2561.05, subd. 2a
- Losing Housing Support, but not apartment – how to pay rent?
- Losing apartment >> losing Housing Support
- Shady Housing Support providers

# CHILDCARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CCAP)

- Helps cover the cost of childcare for caregivers engaged in authorized work activities
- Payments made per child
- Payments are made directly to childcare provider
- Usually must pay a small co-pay

# REQUIREMENTS

For CCAP to be paid:

- 1) Must be a parentally responsible individual to the child
- 2) Must engaged in authorized work activities
- 3) Must send child to authorized childcare provider

# PARENTALLY RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUAL

- Parents (biological and adoptive)
- Stepparents
- Legal spouses of PRI
- Legal guardians (custody provided under specific statutory provisions)
- Eligible relative caregivers (same as MFIP)
- Relative custodians who accepted a transfer of permanent legal and physical custody
- Successor custodians or successor guardians
- Foster parents

# AUTHORIZED WORK ACTIVITIES

- One parent household – must meet activity requirements
- Two parent household – at least one parent must meet requirements; other parent must also meet requirements OR be unable to care for the child as determined by a medical provider
- Families experiencing homelessness are exempt for three months
- Types of authorized activities:
  - Have and comply with MFIP employment plan
  - Job search – up to 240 hours per year
  - Employment
  - Education
  - Combination

# AMOUNT PAID

- No more than 120 hours every two weeks
- Max number of hours authorized for each child is number of hours care needed while engaged in authorized activities
- County review authorized activity schedule; child's school schedule; and childcare provider availability to determine number of authorized hours
- County only pays for childcare actually used

- 1) MFIP
- 2) Transition Year
- 3) Basic Sliding Fee

# SUBPROGRAMS

# MFIP

- Families receiving MFIP are eligible for CCAP if participating in authorized activities
- Guaranteed CCAP if have MFIP basis of eligibility



# TRANSITION YEAR

- Families whose MFIP case closes can continue to get CCAP for 12 months following MFIP closure
- Guaranteed CCAP if have Transition Year eligibility

# BASIC SLIDING FEE

- For families not receiving MFIP, but financially eligible for CCAP
- Not fully funded
  - Agencies receive yearly allocation for BSF
  - When money runs out, there is a waiting period
  - Very long waiting period in metro counties
- Example: foster parents (foster children ineligible for MFIP, so can only get BSF)

# COMMON ISSUES

- 1 or both PRIs not engaged in authorized work activities
- Absences from child care >> no payment >> losing child care
- All the issues that come up with MFIP

# MEDICAID UNWINDING

- Due to COVID, no one could be cut off MA between April 2020 and April 2023
- Beginning April 2023 states had to complete redetermination for everyone enrolled to determine eligibility
- What issues would you expect arose with this process?

# EBT SKIMMING

- EBT cards do not have chips; easily skimmed or cloned
- December 2022 – Congress authorized states to use federal funds to replace SNAP benefits stolen via skimming
- MN DHS Combined Manual  
**0024.06.03.10 - REPLACING STOLEN EBT BENEFITS**