



August 10, 2022

RE: KABC budget recommendations for FY 2023 KDADS Stakeholder Budget Hearing

Dear Secretary Howard,

Thank you for providing Kansas Stakeholders the opportunity to provide input and request your consideration of budget items for the FY 2023 KDADS budget.

We are sensitive to your agency's position knowing that the social service needs of Kansans are many while the State budget is limited. As the Executive Director of Kansas Advocates for Better Care, I offer the following (4) opportunities as suggestions that would improve and innovate existing public service and certainly improve the lives for older Kansans.

Requests

- (1) **Adequate funding to support administrative costs associated with the potential passage of Charlie's Bill (formerly HB2004).** The passage of this bill would permit a resident of an adult residential care facility to file an appeal with the Secretary of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services within 15 days after the date of a pending involuntary transfer or discharge. A fiscal note was provided **in FY2019** however this note may need to be reevaluated to better capture current cost and impact.
- (2) **To expand case management services to the Frail Elderly, Physically Disabled and Brain Injury waiver populations.**
 - Administrative Case Management services have been successfully added to assist with one component normally associated with case management for the FE, PD and BI waiver population.
 - The Nursing Facility Mental Health Settlement Agreement recognizes the need for case management to successfully divert and discharge residents and that RFP is currently posted.
 - The Intellectually & Developmentally Disabled waiver population currently receives case management, acknowledging that case management is a key service in the waiver's success.

So, let's do the same for all waiver populations. We believe this service could be provided to the total number of the three waiver populations (FE, PD, BI), 13,287 for approximately \$1,129 per client, per year. **Our request is for \$7.5 million in SGF with matching \$7.5 million in Medicaid funding totaling \$15 million.**

In addition, to our requests KABC also supports the following.

- The additional request made by Oral Health Kansas to fund the addition of dentures as an adult dental benefit under Medicaid.
- Funding to increase rates for direct care service providers. Provider adequacy issues exist across Kansas particularly in rural and frontier areas. An investment in the home care rates should lead to greater stability for home care providers, better pay for direct care workers and improved long-term care options for those needing care.

Again, we compliment you and your team for the leadership in addressing these critical issues.

Sincerely,

Daniel Goodman

Daniel Goodman
Executive Director
Kansas Advocates for Better Care

Kansas Advocates for Better Care. A statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to improving long-term care for older Kansans at-home and in adult care facilities since 1975.