

**Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19):  
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding for Respite and  
Family Driven Support Services  
ODP Announcement 22-019**

**AUDIENCE:**

Individuals, Families, Administrative Entities (AEs)

**PURPOSE:**

To inform stakeholders of ARPA funds that are available to AEs to disperse in order to meet respite and/or the Family Driven Support Services (FDSS) needs of individuals on the waiting list who do not currently receive waiver funded services. This communication is intended to:

- Describe eligibility criteria for the use of these funds
- Describe eligible expenditures
- Describe responsibilities of counties in allocating funding
- Reporting requirements

**DISCUSSION:**

ODP dispersed funding to counties based on the number of registered individuals on Emergency PUNS who are not currently enrolled in an ODP waiver and are not receiving services. The intent of the funding is to address short-term respite or family support

needs. The ARPA funds are categorically allocated as “ARPA respite” and not subject to county match.

Eligible individuals will meet both of the following criteria:

- Have an active PUNS in the Emergency category
- Not be enrolled in an ODP waiver (Consolidated, Community Living, or Person/Family Directed Support [P/FDS])

An individual cap of \$2,000 per person has been set in order for AEs to serve as many individuals in need as possible.

Eligible expenses include services and supports as outlined in [Chapter 6350](#).

ODP has created a QuestionPro tool for AEs to submit when they review requests for ARPA FDSS funds. The tool will help the AE determine whether the individual is eligible for ARPA FDSS funds or if the AE should use alternative funding options available for that individual.

The tool can be accessed [here](#).

ODP has created a spreadsheet for counties to submit on a quarterly basis to track spending.

The spreadsheet must be submitted to [riesmit@pa.gov](mailto:riesmit@pa.gov) at the reporting schedule indicated below.

Reporting schedule is as follows:

<b><u>REPORTING PERIOD</u></b>	<b><u>DUE DATE</u></b>
February 11, 2022-February 29, 2022	March 15, 2022
March 1, 2022-June 30, 2022	July 15, 2022
July 1, 2022-October 31, 2022	November 15, 2022
November 1, 2022-February 28, 2023	March 15, 2023
March 1, 2023-June 30, 2023	July 15, 2023
July 1, 2023-October 31, 2023	November 15, 2023
November 1, 2023-February 29, 2024	March 15, 2024
March 1, 2024-March 31, 2024	April 15, 2024

**CONTACT:**

For questions about the use of funds or submission of quarterly reporting please contact  
Lauren House [LAUHOUSE@PA.GOV](mailto:LAUHOUSE@PA.GOV).

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Tracking Spreadsheet