



## **FCOA and FASP ADVOCACY UPDATE: Background Screening, DOEA Budget Request and Money Follows the Person**

**First, commendations to DOEA for requesting an additional \$129.1 million in new funding for aging programs and services!! This is the largest single year request to a Governor's office in memory.**

### **A summary of DOEA's Legislative Budget Requests – Increases and Cuts**

#### **I. DOEA Legislative Budget Request to the Governor's Office -- Increases**

**A. Money Follows the Person** – In June 2011 the Legislative Budget Commission voted not to accept the first round of administrative funding that would lead to Florida accepting approximately \$36 million in federal funds to administer the Money Follows the Person program, which is 100 percent federally funded. We have learned that this federal funding is still available to Florida and will be until 2016. DOEA has elected to include this as a Legislative Budget issue, asking for 5 staff to plan and prepare for implementation. The positions are: 1 State Coordinator; 1 Analyst; 1 Systems Programming Consultant and 3 Regional Nursing Home Transition Coordinators.

**B. Alzheimer's Disease Initiative – FCOA and other advocates were successful in the 2011 Session in restoring the ADI cuts to the budget and having them become funded as continuation programs.** DOEA is requesting a net increase of \$2,967,300, all of which is targeted for 471 new slots for respite care. All other ADI programs are at continuation level. DOEA projects this will save \$83.3 million in Medicaid nursing home costs annually.

**C. Nursing Home Diversion** – DOEA requested \$30,662,280 in additional funding for 1,762 additional slots. The projected Medicaid nursing home savings is \$47.9 million annually.

**D. Community Care for the Elderly** – DOEA requested an increase of \$21,926,040 to serve 4,106 additional persons at an annual cost (reduced from 2010, which was \$5,982) of \$5,340. The Medicaid nursing home savings is \$83,343,996.

**E. Home Care for the Elderly** – DOEA requested an increase of \$2,725,248 to serve an additional 752 persons at an annual cost of \$3,624, and a Medicaid nursing home savings of \$15,132,096.

**F. Medicaid Waivers: 1) Assisted Living (ALE)** – DOEA requested an increase of \$2,173,500 to add 207 slots, saving \$5,896,944 in Medicaid nursing home costs. **2) Aged and Disabled Adult (ADA)** – DOEA requested an increase of \$32,866,027 to serve an additional 3,188 new clients, resulting in a Medicaid nursing home savings of \$64,985,028.

#### **II. DOEA Legislative Budget Proposed Cuts in Priority Ranking if General Revenue Falls Short (Cuts total \$61.2 million)**

**First Priority for Cuts: Aged and Disabled Medicaid Waiver: \$5.3 million cut from current funding, results in capping enrollment at 9,000 slots; 519 new persons not being served and \$12,830,155 in increased Medicaid nursing home costs**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Priority: Alzheimer's Disease Initiative: \$378,506 cut from current funding, results in slots capped at 900; 60 seniors not being served and \$1,741,650 in increased Medicaid nursing home costs**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Priority: Assisted Living waiver: \$14,083,803 (this is a large portion of the budget for this program; total budget is about \$35 million) results in capping enrollment at 2,000 slots; 1,341 elders not being served and \$46,792,330 in increased Medicaid nursing home costs**

**4<sup>th</sup> Priority: Community Care for the Elderly: \$5,769,617 cut from current funding, program capped at 6,500 slots; results in 1,080 seniors not served and \$24,150,880 in increased Medicaid nursing home costs**

**5<sup>th</sup> Priority: Nursing Home Diversion: \$33,218,760 cut from current funding, capping enrollment at 17,465 slots; results in 1,799 seniors not being served and \$69,840,165 in increased Medicaid nursing home costs**

**Total Proposed Cuts: \$61,263,734, which represents \$31.6 million of General Revenue and \$29.6 million in Trust funds (this federal money is lost to the state)**

**III. Background Screening Bill – Sen. Rhonda Storms has filed the same bill that was passed by the Legislature in 2011, and then vetoed by Governor Scott. Robert Beck is working on a House sponsor. Expect this bill to undergo some amendments to reduce the number of monthly contact hours from 20 , probably to 10, and it is likely that some level of assurance of background screening will be required, but not as onerous as a Level 2.**