**Family Support Program- General Definitions**

The following definitions provide clarification on the scope of frequently used Family Support services.

**Before/After Care**

Before/after care is a form of day care provided to either children or adults. It is provided either before or after school or a day activity. Its typical purpose is to enable the caregiver to work.

**Behavior Services**

Behavior Services includes the assessment or analysis of behavior that presents a health or safety risk to the person or others or that significantly interferes with home or community activities, assessment of the settings in which such behaviors occur and the events which precipitate the behaviors; the development, monitoring, and revision of crisis prevention and behavior intervention strategies; and training of the caregivers. Behavior Services must be provided by a credentialed professional.

**Day Care**

Day care is a service that typically provides out of home care for a child or adult on a regular ongoing basis. Generally, day care is provided to enable a caregiver to engage in a regularly scheduled activity such as employment. Day care services may or may not be provided in a licensed program.

**Emergency Living Expenses**

Housing Costs may cover the establishment of a home or emergency housing expenses that are necessary to prevent the loss of the home or to protect the health, safety or welfare of the person with a disability (for example, utilities, propane, or insurance premiums (seek public assistance first). but should not cover ongoing expenses such as mortgage, rent, or utility expenses.

**Family Counseling**

Counseling provided to the person or caregiver related to challenges in the life of the person with a disability.

**Health Related**

Health related include services provided by a licensed health provider and may include, but are not limited to, medicine, dentist visits, dentures, medical bills, therapy, respiratory, vision, hearing. Health Related may also cover the cost of non-prescription items such as over the counter medications, first aid supplies and other items needed for the health or welfare of the person with a disability.

While Family Support funding may be utilized to purchase medication, a recipient of Family Support funding must ensure all prescription medication purchases are appropriate and utilized in accordance with the prescribing physician and in line with standard medical practice. Any evidence of misappropriation of Family Support funds for narcotics or other drugs of abuse and/or “doctor shopping” will be reported to state law enforcement officials for appropriate action under state and federal laws. Moreover, any payments for Family Support funding related to abuse of drugs may be withheld pending confirmation of appropriate medical use.

**Home Modifications**

Home modifications include interior or exterior physical modifications to a person’s place of residence that are needed to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the person or to enable the person to function with greater independence. Examples include, but are not limited to:, wheelchair ramps, widening of doorways, modifications of bathroom and kitchen facilities, and installation of specialized electrical or plumbing system to accommodate necessary medical equipment and supplies.

**Homemaker Services**

These services are provided to the whole family or household. Homemaker services include general household activities and chores such as sweeping, mopping, dusting, changing linens, making beds, washing dishes, doing personal laundry, ironing, mending, meal preparation, and assistance with maintenance of a safe environment. Family members may be paid to provide homemaker services but cannot be the spouse, the parent or guardian/conservator of a minor child or an adult, or another family member living in the same residence as the person receiving the homemaker services. Exceptions to these provisions may be made at the discretion of the Local Council.

**Nursing/Nurses Aid**

Nursing includes services provided by registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, or nurse’s aides that are ordered by the person’s physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner. These services may be provided in home and community settings, but may not be provided in in patient hospitals.

**Personal Assistance**

Personal assistance provides in-home or community support to a person with a disability. Services may include, but are not limited to, assistance with activities of daily living (for example, bathing, dressing, personal hygiene, eating), related household activities or chores (for example, meal preparation, washing dishes, personal laundry, general housecleaning), and budget management. Personal assistance may also be provided in the community but is not intended to replace services covered by schools or other programs. Community-based services may include, but are not limited to, accompanying the enrollee on personal errands such as grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions, paying bills; trips to the post office, and medical appointments as well as assisting the person with interpersonal and social skills building in community settings. Family members may be paid to provide personal assistance but cannot be the spouse, the parent or guardian/conservator of an adult or minor child, or another family member living in the same residence as the person receiving the personal assistance. Exceptions to these provisions may be made at the discretion of the Local Council.

**Recreation/Summer Camp**

Recreation/summer camp may include, but is not limited to, the cost of attendance at camp for either a child or adult with disabilities, therapeutic activities, horse therapy, swimming, YMCA activities, and participation in other community recreational activities.

**Respite**

Respite is a service that provides a break from caregiving responsibilities. Respite may be short or long term and may take place at home or somewhere else. Respite may be a service that is planned in advance or may be also provided in emergency circumstances. The services that have sometimes been called sitter should be included in this category. Family members may be paid to provide respite but cannot be the spouse, the parent or guardian/conservator of a minor child or an adult, or another family member living in the same residence as the person receiving the respite. Exceptions to these provisions may be made at the discretion of the Local Council.

**Specialized Equipment & Repair/Maintenance**

Specialized equipment and repair/maintenance means assistive devices, adaptive aids, controls or appliances which enable a person to perform activities of daily living or to perceive, control or communicate with the environment. The service also includes accessories and supplies for the equipment as well as repairs or maintenance for the proper functioning of such items. Examples include, but are not limited to:, communication devices, hearing devices, personal emergency response systems, specialized lifts, positioning equipment, wheelchairs, seating devices, assistive technology and software.

**Specialized Nutrition/Clothing/Supplies**

Specialized nutrition may include services performed by a Nutritionist/Dietician and food items such as ensure, boost, gluten free products, and other dietary products necessary for the health and well-being of persons with disabilities.

Specialized clothing may be necessary for individuals who, due to their disability, need larger or smaller clothes than generally available, need clothing with more reinforcement than generally available, need clothing with fasteners other than what is generally available, etc.

Supplies are to benefit the person with a disability whose needs go beyond those of the general population for cleanliness, warmth, cooling, etc.

**Training**

Training may include services provided directly to the person with a disability or to the person’s caregiver and may include, but is not limited to, conference costs, lodging costs, educational activities, and consumer training.

**Transportation**

Transportation includes the cost of directly transporting a person with a disability to day services, his or her job, non-medical appointments, or various related activities. Transportation may also include the cost of a bus ticket, taxis, or other types of transportation used to enable the person to participate in nearby community activities. Transportation may include vehicle repairs or an emergency car insurance premium.

Long distance travel includes the cost of mileage, meals for the recipient, and/or lodging associated with transporting the recipient.

A transportation form is in Appendix C of the Family Support

Guidelines and must be completed to invoice for this service.

**Vehicular Modifications**

Vehicular modifications include interior or exterior physical modifications to a vehicle owned by a person with a disability or by the primary caregiver of a person with a disability and which is routinely available for transporting the person with a disability. Examples include, but are not limited to:, lifts that allow access to the vehicle, interior modifications such as grab bars, head/leg rests, devices to secure wheelchairs in a stationary position, roof modifications, safety belts, steering control adaptations, changes to car pedals, and remote switches.