



**TO: Access Agencies, All Home and Community Based Services Providers**

**RE: State funded Home Care Program for Elders**

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Due to the projected shortfall in the Connecticut state budget for the current fiscal year, the Department of Social Services is charged with implementing a series of rescissions (reductions), including a reduction of approximately \$2.37 million (5%) in the state-funded portion of the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders.

In order to achieve this mandatory reduction, the Department met with representatives of all three of the current Access Agencies to develop an implementation strategy. The selected approach is to have the Access Agencies conduct rigorous reviews of all care plans with the goal of achieving the 5% reduction. This labor-intensive process began immediately. The Access Agencies and the Department will jointly monitor the effectiveness of the implementation.

We recognize the potential impact this will have on the provider community, as hours of service may well be reduced. In particular, the challenge will be addressing situations where the provider agency insists on a minimum number of hours per visit when the care manager has assessed that the necessary tasks can be completed in less time. Every effort will be made to make this a collaborative process between the Department, Access Agencies and provider community.

We have encountered similar situations in the past and, for the most part, we have found clients to be willing to contribute to the resolution of the fiscal challenges.

Please direct questions or concerns to Kathy Bruni, Manager of the DSS Alternate Care Unit, at (860)424-5177 or [Kathy.a.bruni@ct.gov](mailto:Kathy.a.bruni@ct.gov).

We greatly appreciate your participation, cooperation and understanding.

