



Update: Program Closures Affecting Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities

This update is provided as part of the Commission on Aging's ongoing mission to educate policymakers and stakeholders about emerging issues affecting older adults in CT. 6/11/09

Due to the state's fiscal situation, administrative decisions have been made recently which close intake to and/or modify a number of non-entitlement programs at the Department of Social Services, including:

- **Medicare Part D Wrap-Around:** This state-funded program fills in gaps left by Medicare Part D for ConnPACE enrollees and individuals who are dually-eligible (i.e., those who are eligible for Medicaid and Medicare - the low-income elderly and people with chronic illness). The Wrap-Around covers prescription drugs that are not covered by Part D plans. Beginning on June 1, new prescriptions will not be covered.
- **Statewide Respite Care:** This state-funded program offers relief to stressed caregivers by providing information, support, the development of an appropriate plan of care, and services for the individual with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias. DSS closed intake on May 11.
- **Community-Based Services:** This program, funded through the Social Services Block Grant, provides homemaker-companion services, case management, counseling, adult day care, meals, transportation and other services designed to help individuals aged 18-64 maintain success in the community, usually while they await eligibility determination for other, more comprehensive programs. DSS closed intake on May 11 and will reduce services to current enrollees on June 15, 2009.
- **Care 4 Kids:** This program provides child care to low-income individuals - some of whom provide direct care, home health and other services to older adults and persons with disabilities. DSS closed intake for certain families on May 13. For more information, click [here](#).

Administrative decisions have also resulted in recent closure of intake to and/or modification to a number of non-entitlement programs at the Department of Developmental Services, including:

- **Respite Centers:** These state-funded centers offer relief to families who provide care for their developmentally disabled relatives at home. Typically these centers are open seven days a week throughout the summer. This summer, respite centers will be open only five days per week. For more information, click [here](#).
- **Case Manager Services:** DDS will no longer be assigning case managers to individuals who are not enrolled in fee-for-service Medicaid. Individuals who are not enrolled in Medicaid and individuals who are enrolled in Husky Medicaid Managed Care will no longer receive DDS case management effective July 1.

For more information, please contact the CoA at 860-240-5200.

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to ensure a brighter future for our state
and for older adults of today and
tomorrow.*