

Testimony
To
Human Services Committee
Raised Bill No. 662
Bristol Community Organization, Inc.
55 South Street
Bristol, Connecticut 06010
Thomas H. Morrow, Executive Director

I'd like to thank the committee for the opportunity to testify regarding "An Act Concerning Medicaid Eligibility and Reimbursement". Bristol Community Organization, Inc is a federally designated Community Action Agency serving five towns: Bristol, Burlington, Farmington, Plainville and Plymouth. We manage a Homemaker Program that provides services that allow elderly and disabled residents to remain at home – and out of full time nursing home care. We support the provisions to simplify the audit process and to stop the practice of extrapolated projections unless proof of intent to commit fraud or otherwise violate program rules is established.

In addition, we support efforts to improve the timely payments for services provided through Medicaid programs. We are here today to ask that you add language to the bill which would provide for the timely payments of all Department of Social Services Programs. As the attached document demonstrates, payments for services provided through DSS contracts are delayed anywhere from 30 days to five months after contracts are signed. We ask that the department stop issuing partial payments. For example, in the fourth quarter of the CSBG/HSI contract, it took four payments spread over five months to receive that one quarterly payment.

Because the Department of Social Services payments are so late, BCO pays over \$12,000 per year in interest to a bank because we need a credit line to pay salaries for the programs under contract with DSS. For the past four or five years, we have asked that this timely payments issue be resolved by DSS. This year, we are asking that you legislate a timely payment of 30 days after the start of the program year. If a program starts on January 1, 2008 and the state expects services to begin on that date, the funding for the program should be made within a thirty-day period of the start date of the contract.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Committee and, particularly Chairman Harris for your efforts to lend focus and to set priorities on the continued effort to Reduce Child Poverty. In Bristol, the participation in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program has increased nearly 10% during the past three years. Rising energy, food, and rent costs are forcing families from self-sufficiency to poverty and we appreciate your efforts to help us to change this trend.

I am available for any questions you may have or for any further information that you may need on any of the issues that I have discussed today.

2007

	1ST QTR				2ND QTR				3RD QTR				4TH QTR				5TH QTR			
	AMT.	SIGN& SENT	AMT.	RECEIVED	AMT.	SIGN& SENT	AMT.	RECEIVED	AMT.	SIGN& SENT	AMT.	RECEIVED	AMT.	SIGN& SENT	AMT.	RECEIVED	AMT.	SIGN& SENT	AMT.	RECEIVED
17C-CBG-31(A2) / 06DSS1501CA (A2) CBG & H S I 1/1/06 - 12/31/07 \$ 705,623.00	\$ 87,047.75	11/30/06 1 MO. 26 DAYS	\$ 62,624.75 PARTIAL PAYMENT	01/26/07	\$ 87,047.75	03/02/07 2 MO. 8 DAYS	\$ 91,660.75	05/10/07	\$ 87,047.75	06/01/07 2 MO. 14 DAYS	\$ 87,824.87	08/15/07	\$ 88,270.63	09/12/07 0 MO. 23 DAYS	\$ 39,164.75 PARTIAL PAYMENT	10/05/07				
		11/30/06 4 MO 11 DAYS	\$ 23,470.00 PARTIAL PAYMENT	04/12/07										09/12/07 2 MO. 1 DAYS	\$ 26,289.75 PARTIAL PAYMENT	11/13/07				
		11/30/06 5 MO. 9 DAYS	\$ 953.00 PARTIAL PAYMENT	05/10/07										09/12/07 3 MO. 12 DAYS	\$ 19,662.14 PARTIAL PAYMENT	12/24/07				
														09/12/07 5 MO 15 DAYS	\$ 6,774.99 PARTIAL PAYMENT	02/27/08				
17C-SBG-23 / 07DSS5001CI 3SBG=DISABLED 1/1/01/07-12/31/07 \$ 30,780.00	\$ 7,695.00	01/08/07 0 MO. 18 DAYS	\$ 5,372.00 PARTIAL PAYMENT	01/26/07	\$ 7,695.00	03/02/07 1 MO. 8 DAYS	\$ 7,695.00	04/10/07	\$ 7,695.00	06/01/07 1 MO. 29 DAYS	\$ 7,695.00	07/30/07	\$ 7,695.00	09/12/07 2 MO. 2 DAYS	\$ 3,848.00 PARTIAL PAYMENT	11/14/07				
		01/08/07 1 MO. 4 DAYS	\$ 1,791 PARTIAL PAYMENT	02/12/07										9/12/2007 4 MO 3 DAYS	\$ 3,847 PARTIAL PAYMENT	1/15/2008				
		01/08/07 1 MO. 21 DAYS	\$ 532 PARTIAL PAYMENT	03/01/07																
17C-EPP-14(A2) / 06DSS5201CI EVICTION 1/1/01/06-06/30/08 \$ 44,310.00	\$ 4,431.00	12/14/07 2 MO. 23 DAYS	\$ 4,431.00	03/09/07	\$ 4,431.00	03/02/07 3 MO. 13 DAYS	\$ 4,431.00	06/15/07	\$ 4,431.00	06/01/07 3 MO. 6 DAYS	\$ 4,431.00	09/07/07	\$ 4,431.00	12/11/07 1 MO. 14 DAYS	\$ 4,431.00	01/25/08	\$ 4,431.00	12/11/07 1 MO. 26 DAYS	\$ 4,422.00 PARTIAL PAYMENT	2/6/2008
																	\$ 9.00	12/11/2007	\$	
17BCO-BSP-01 / 07DSS3801CI TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM BEYOND SHELTER 1/1/01/07-12/31/07 \$ 50,000.00	\$ 12,500.00	02/16/07 1 MO. 10 DAYS	\$ 12,500.00	03/28/07	\$ 12,500.00	03/02/07 3 MO. 23 DAYS	\$ 12,500.00	06/25/07	\$ 12,500.00	06/01/07 3 MO. 5 DAYS	\$ 12,500.00	09/06/07	\$ 12,500.00	09/12/07 4 MO. 2 DAYS	\$ 12,500.00	01/14/08				

CREDIT LINE INTEREST PAYMENTS
1/07 - 1/08 \$11,667.54

LATE CHARGES ON INVOICES
1/07 - 1/08 \$ 578.08

TOTAL: \$12,243.62