

For Providers to send to their legislators -- [add logo]

To: Our Federal Legislators

From: [name, organization]

Date: August ____, 2020

Re: Please Support Targeted Allocation for Residential Addiction Treatment Providers

As you know, [org name] is a constituent nonprofit provider of addiction treatment services. [Add info about your organization, for example: XXX is one of the largest nonprofit addiction treatment providers in the Midwest. We serve nearly XXX children, adolescents, and adults each year.]

As you address issues related to COVID-19 funding, please

Urge the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to issue a Targeted Allocation from the Provider Relief Fund for Nonprofit, Licensed, Residential Addiction Treatment Providers (“Residential Providers”).

- Residential providers offer residential treatment and detox services, ASAM levels 3.5 and 3.7. (ASAM is the American Society of Addiction Medicine.) People stay overnight to receive these services.
- Residential Providers have experienced a **significant decrease in revenue due to COVID-19**. Some people delay treatment, concerned about coronavirus, and providers need to take social distancing measures and serve fewer people – while at the same time, expenses for providing treatment during COVID-19 have increased.
- Residential providers **face similar challenges as hospitals, nursing homes, and skilled nursing facilities (SNFs)**, including:
 - serve clients 24/7 in congregate/residential settings;
 - spend additional funds to clean facilities to combat COVID-19;
 - test for COVID-19; and
 - have had both patients and employees diagnosed with COVID-19.
- **There is precedence for this request: HHS has created several targeted allocations for similarly hard-hit provider categories, including rural providers, Indian Health Service, and SNFs.** HHS could make relief fund distributions similar to the methodology it used for SNFs: each facility could receive a fixed distribution of \$50,000, plus a distribution of \$2,500 per licensed bed.
- **The need for mental health and substance use treatment services has increased due to the pandemic.**

Your support is critical and very much appreciated. We want to be sure we are able to continue providing high quality services to your constituents who need mental health or addiction treatment services.

**Please contact HHS today to express your support for this targeted allocation.
Attached is a draft letter to HHS for your convenience.**

If you have any questions or would like to discuss, please contact [name, email, phone]. Thank you.