



CLAY COUNTY AUDITOR

Marjorie A. Pitts

Phone: 712-262-1569
Fax: 712-262-5793
Email: mpitts@co.clay.ia.us

Clay County Administration Building
300 West 4th Street, Suite 4
Spencer, Iowa 51301

December 24, 2012

The Honorable Terry E. Branstad
Office of the Governor
State Capitol Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Michael E. Marshall
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Carmine Boal
Chief Clerk of the House
State Capitol Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

RE: SFY2012 Mental Health and Disability Services Risk Pool Fund Distribution

2012 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2071, section 6, subsections 5 and 6, as amended requires the risk pool board to submit reports to the governor and general assembly on or before December 31, 2012 and 2013, regarding the expenditure of funds distributed under this section.

The Risk Pool Board would like to submit this overview of the risk pool funding awarded and expended by counties in SFY2012.

The following funding was available in the Property Tax Relief fund for the Risk Pool to distribute to Counties that applied in FY2012.

HF209/SF649 Risk Pool Fund Appropriation	\$10,000,000
Amount Rebated by Counties in SFY2012	\$3,798,529
Carry Forward from SFY2011	\$1,324,489
	<hr/>
	\$15,123,018

The Risk Pool Board awarded a total of \$10,386,100.45 to seven (7) counties. Funding was awarded three times in Fiscal Year 2012, (August 2011, December 2011, and March 2012).

Ann Baschke
Deputy Auditor
Email: abaschke@co.clay.ia.us

Audrey Coffman
Election Deputy
Email: acoffman@co.clay.ia.us

Connie Adams
Auditor Staff
Email: cadams@co.clay.ia.us

Kristine Toay
Auditor Staff
Email: ktoay@co.clay.ia.us

Honored to be in the "Hub of County Government"

The following chart shows the amount awarded to each applicant county, the amount they spent in Fiscal Year 2012, the amount they anticipate spending in Fiscal Year 2013, and the amount they project returning to the State at the end of Fiscal Year 2013:

	Amount Awarded	Amount Spent in SFY2012	Amount Projected to be Spent in SFY2013	Amount Projected to be Returned
Polk	\$7,732,181.00	\$2,912,330.00	\$2,187,485.00	\$2,632,366.00
Scott	\$619,809.00	\$277,944.00	\$341,865.00	\$0
Clinton	\$656,973.00	\$251,476.00	\$380,674.00	\$24,823.00
Jackson	\$29,271.00	\$16,939.00	\$12,332.00	\$0
Linn	\$1,303,780.20	\$540,021.00	\$763,759.20	\$0
Osceola	\$37,058.25	\$13,150.00	\$23,908.25	\$0
Sac	\$7,028.00	\$1,775.00	\$5,253.00	\$0
Total Amount Awarded	\$10,386,100.45	\$4,013,635.00	\$3,715,276.45	\$2,657,189.00

The Risk Pool Funds were awarded to counties who had a waiting list. The funds were to remove all individuals from the waiting list and to assure those individuals did not go back onto a county waiting list through FY12. Because of the difficulty in predicting what individuals with disabilities will need and utilize in service funding, all counties found that not all individuals on their original waiting list application needed/wanted to access service funding once it became available. These seven counties were able to avoid additional FY12 waiting lists because new people coming into the system that would have needed to go on a waiting list were able to access available risk pool dollars for service funding. The following chart summarizes the number of individuals who received/accessed Risk Pool Funding for services.

	Total Persons in Original Application	Persons receiving funding in FY12	Persons who did not access funding in FY12	Total New Persons not added to waiting list in FY12
Polk	481	618	334	471
Scott	72	52	43	23
Clinton	70	68	23	21
Jackson	8	8	5	5
Linn	182	161	305	284
Osceola	4	6	4	6
Sac	3	4	1	2

Page 3

The Risk Pool Board asked recipient counties to give feedback on how the process worked for each county. Overall the most common comment was that it was very difficult to project what services/supports individuals would access once the funding became available. All counties had individuals who did not access the funding once it was available.

In summary while the risk pool has historically filled the gaps for counties in need of funding, legislative rule changes in FY2012 requiring counties to have a waiting list to be eligible to access risk pool funding has had a negative impact in providing needed funding to counties. The \$4,736,917 risk pool funds returned to the state in FY2012 and the \$2,657,189 that is projected to be returned in FY13 could have been utilized by counties who currently have severe financial needs.

Based on current legislation the risk pool board will not play a role in "filling in the gaps" as it has in the past because this has been replaced by the potential opportunity for transition funds. As of December 2012 thirty two (32) counties have applied for transition funds and twenty six (26) have a reported a negative ending fund balance projected for FY13. DHS has recommended that only three (3) counties be funded. The inability to access adequate funding will have an impact on the mental health services that can be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marjorie Pitts".

Marjorie Pitts, Chair
Mental Health Risk Pool Board