



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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CHRIS CHRISTIE

*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO

*Lt. Governor*

ELIZABETH CONNOLLY

*ACTING Commissioner*

JOSEPH M. AMOROSO

*Director*

September 8, 2017

Dear Personal Preference Program participant,

On July 1, you transitioned to the new fiscal intermediary, Public Partnerships, LLC., for management of caregiver-payments under the Division of Disability Services' Personal Preference Program (PPP). The program is required to comply with new federal Fair Labor Standards Act rules that comport with national best practices in the operation of consumer-directed programs, which alters the previous monthly budget model, as follows:

- The monthly budget, or monthly cash grant amount, is determined by your needs as assessed by your Managed Care Organization. You use the budget as an "employer" to purchase services that meet your needs.
- You and your PPP consultant create a Cash Management Plan (CMP) for your monthly budget to determine the number of service hours you can purchase and a payment rate for those service/s that keeps you within the monthly budget.
- Under the new rules, any portion of the cash grant that is unused at the end of the month is lost. If the cash grant is used up before the month is over, service/s stop until the first day of the following month.

Self-direction and the development of a cash management plan works well with successful budgeting and scheduling of employees. The benefit of the Personal Preference Program is that it provides actual self-direction and genuine consumer-directed services.

Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Amoroso  
Director