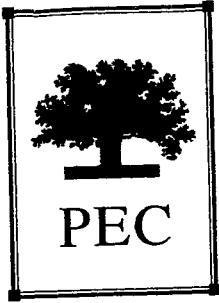


14-518-35



Gloria Guard
President

Sharmain Matlock-Turner
Board Chair

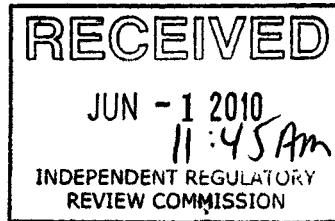
Administration
Rowan House
325 North 39th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-4656
Phone: 215-382-7522 ext. 201
Fax: 215-386-6290
Email: pec@pec-cares.org
Website: www.pec-cares.org

Shelter & Services
3902 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-4655
Phone: 215-382-7522 ext. 210
Fax: 215-349-9099

Welfare to Work
Families First
3939 Warren Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-4642
Phone: 215-382-7522 ext. 233
Fax: 215-382-1640

2833

May 21, 2010



Office of Income Maintenance
Bureau of Policy

MAY 26 2010

REFER TO: _____

Edward J. Zogby, Director
Bureau of Policy
4th Floor, Health and Welfare Building
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Mr. Zogby:

This letter is in reference to the Department of Public Welfare's (DPW) proposed regulations titled, "Revisions to the Special Allowance for Supportive Services Requirements (# 14-518). People's Emergency Center (PEC) appreciates the opportunity to present our comments.

Founded in 1972 by community volunteers as an emergency shelter for homeless families, PEC has grown to become Pennsylvania's most comprehensive social service agency for homeless families. PEC's comprehensive co-located services break the cycle of homelessness by helping families achieve permanent stability and self-sufficiency. Grounded in 36 years of experience servicing homeless families in Philadelphia, PEC's program provides families with case management; emergency shelter, food and clothing; transitional housing; on-site child care and health care services; specialized after school and summer enrichment programs; mental health services; parent education; welfare-to-work services; and housing counseling. Ninety staff serve more than 125 families each year, providing intensive, individualized care to this vulnerable, hard-to-reach population; provide community development activities for West Powelton, Mantua, and Saunders Park; and pursue policy and advocacy activities in support of our mission.

These regulations are needed to bring greater accountability to this important program while ensuring that these very important supports remain available for those who need them to be able to move from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), General Assistance (GA), and SNAP into employment.

Government in all segments is trying to increase the accountability of its programs and services. These proposed regulations bring increased integrity to areas where DPW has faced criticism for previously having had accountability deficiencies.

These regulations ensure that this program will be able to serve the greatest number of people with the limited resources available. While some may be concerned that limits on transportation and work-related expenses will cause hardship in some participants, PEC agrees that this concern is outweighed by the opportunity to sustain the program for additional participants.



United Way
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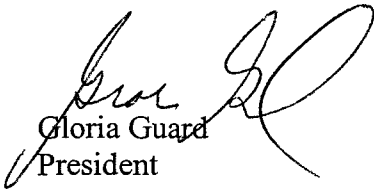
State law requires us to tell you that PEC is registered as a charitable organization with the Commonwealth. You can obtain a copy of our registration and financial information by calling toll free within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Finally, the changes do increase some program benefits for the participants, specifically the mileage rate for a private vehicle and the motor vehicle purchase amount. PEC agrees with these increases as they more accurately reflect the costs to the program participant.

PEC supports DPW's "Revisions to the Special Allowance for Supportive Service Requirements" proposed regulations. We acknowledge these regulations seek to correct deficiencies in the current program and regulations.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment and take PEC's letter under consideration.

Yours truly,



Gloria Guard
President