

BQC-94-001

Date: January 10, 1994

To: Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled

FDD 1

From: Judy Fryback, Director
Bureau of Quality Compliance

Subject: Use of Client's Funds to Purchase "Re-Enforcers" for Behavioral Programs in ICFs/MR

We have received an interpretation from the federal Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) regional office regarding the use of a client's personal funds for the purchase of "re-enforcers" (pop, treats, etc.) for a behavioral program they may be on.

A client's own personal funds cannot be used for the purchase of re-enforcers for behavioral programs. Behavioral programs determined to be needed by the interdisciplinary team to reduce and eliminate maladaptive behaviors must be provided for by the facility. Use of a client's own funds may also violate Medicaid coverage requirements.

If you have additional questions, please contact Jerome M. Cabala, CICSW, Social Services Consultant, at (608) 266-8482.

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