



State of Maryland Executive Department

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To: LMB Board Chairs and Points of Contact

From: Kim Malat, Deputy Director

Date: September 14, 2015

Re: Question and Answer Recap #1 from LMB Meeting on 9/10/15

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**1. In Phase 3 and 4, there is reference to a “single pool” of funding. Does this mean that all LMB funding, from across the State, will be pooled and there will no longer be a County allocation or base funding?**

The single pool of funding in phases 3 and 4 references the combined funding for LMB administration and programs, based on the FY17 award. There will not be a separate award for administration and program funding as we have now. Awards will be made for a total amount of funding with the LMB determining the amounts to set aside for administration and programs (using guidelines to be issued).

However, in FY19, the award to an LMB will be based upon results achieved in FYs 16-18. The single pool references the fact that there will not be new money available competitively as in prior years.

**2. As I read the Strategic Plan, I see that prevention, early intervention and community-based services are still the focus of effecting change at the local level, but as I talk with others, the impression was that intervention is now the focus. Can you please clarify? As I see it, both prevention and intervention are necessary to create change and that’s what I was hearing. By example, a quality after school program can strengthen school attachment and prevent school dropout, thereby preventing an increase in disconnected youth.**

We are transitioning over the upcoming years to target specific populations to target the Governor’s four Strategic Goals. There will be some flexibility in the earlier phases for LMBs to transition programs and interventions, but for the new funding that will be made available (in FY17 and FY18) and for all FY19 programs, the LMB will be required to use Children’s Cabinet funds to ONLY address one or more of the four Strategic Goals.

**3. The slide for FY18 talks about a NOFA, but it doesn't talk about a CPA. Will the CPA process be eliminated in that year?**

The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) will replace the instructions that have been issued recently for the Community Partnership Agreement (CPA) proposals. The LMB will complete the NOFA process to request funds. The CPA is the contract by which funds are awarded to the LMB. Once an LMB successfully completes the NOFA process, a CPA will be executed (similar to the current process – the LMB makes the request, it's approved, and then a contract is issued).

**4. With regard to the slide for FY19, does all the money that was going toward LMB strategies that we proved as a need in our community get awarded to only the strategies that address the four identified goals in this fiscal year? Or will LMBs still be able to get funding through a CPA for programs that address the Result Areas (that have proven need), but not necessarily the four goal areas because the goals will be addressed with funding from the additional money added in 2017 and 2018?**

As stated in the response to question #2, we are transitioning over the upcoming years to target specific populations to target the Governor's four Strategic Goals. We are not abandoning the focus on Results and Indicators. In all years, the LMB will have to prioritize Results and Indicators and tie its Children's Cabinet-funded programs to one or more of the standard Results and corresponding Indicators.

In addition, for the new funding that will be made available (in FY17 and FY18) and for all FY19 programs, the LMB will be required to use Children's Cabinet funds to ONLY address one or more of the four Strategic Goals.

The expectation is that in FY17, LMBs will submit community plans that address all critical needs regardless of the Children's Cabinet Strategic Goals. This will provide the basis for LMBs or their partners to seek funding from other entities (county, State agencies, foundations, etc.) to address other needs that are beyond the focus of the Children's Cabinet.

**5. Will there be webinars to compliment the current sessions relating to the four Strategic Goals?**

Currently, webinars are definitely planned to facilitate Results Scorecard™ implementation and a schedule will be available once all details are confirmed.

In the coming months we will provide webinars that relate to the Strategic Goals and focus on best practices or promising strategies that emerge, but please note that these will NOT be repeats of the training sessions that are currently underway. We will also consider informal opportunities for webinars by request of the LMB to its designated Policy Analyst. Topical technical assistance is also available upon request.

In addition, we will advise LMBs of relevant webinars and training opportunities of which we become aware.