



## **Family First Prevention Services – Capacity Building Grants - Homebuilders®**

### **Questions and Answers**

1. What is the current reimbursement or payment rate for Homebuilders® services? Are any rate adjustments planned or anticipated in 2022-2023?  
**Answer amended on 5/13/2022 to provide clarity on the weekly amount.**  
A. \$1375.00 for 4 sessions per week. If less than 4 sessions are completed, the rate will be prorated.  
B. Not at this time.
2. How is the current reimbursement or payment rate for Homebuilders® services paid to providers (i.e., timing of payments by week or by case completion, case outcomes necessary for payment, etc.)?  
A. The provider is required to send in a monthly invoice with the service provided, dates of the service, receipts for training, etc. A deposit is made into the providers account monthly.
3. Are reimbursement or payment rates for Homebuilders® services completely independent of SC Medicaid and private health insurance billing? Should providers expect any problems with 3<sup>rd</sup> party liability (TPL) insurance issues or other billing-related matters?  
A. Yes  
B. No
4. What is the current referral volume for Homebuilders® services in the regions of SC where implementation has already begun? What is the anticipated volume of referrals in Florence County and catchment areas within a 60-mile radius in 2022-2023?  
A. The model requires each FTE to work with 2 families at a time. The length of service averages around 4 weeks.  
B. Florence county has around 350 Family Preservation cases open. Homebuilders can serve families with open family preservation cases with youth ages 0-18 years.
5. How many treatment teams for Homebuilders® (One team = Program Manager, Supervisor, 4 Therapists) are expected to be funded by the grant for each provider?  
A. One team per grant.
6. An issue that has been communicated in service delivery of Homebuilders® services is that many referrals from DSS have been screened out by Homebuilders® professionals as inappropriate for the program. How will DSS ensure that these referrals are not counted as rejected by the provider for grant reporting purposes? How does DSS intend to improve this issue?  
A. DSS is not able to modify the purveyor's requirements for screening referrals. The grantee works closely with a Homebuilders purveyor to determine whether a referral is appropriate.  
B. The referrals that are not appropriate will not be counted against the provider in reporting.  
C. DSS continues to work diligently to educate the field about appropriate Homebuilders referrals.
7. A barrier that has been communicated in service delivery of Homebuilders® services is that many families are in need of basic necessities (food, clothing, utilities, etc.). How does DSS handle these situations? Would budgeting a portion of the grant funding be an option for providers?  
A. The provider will provide concrete necessities for the family to alleviate concerns.  
B. Yes

8. Please explain the 5% in-kind requirement for providers.  
The provider is responsible for providing 5% of the grant funding as an in-kind contribution.
9. Are grant funds limited to one year, or can funding be carried over to a subsequent year if necessary?  
Grant funding can be carried over into a subsequent year if and when it is necessary.
10. Does DSS anticipate additional grant funding opportunities for providers for ongoing training and consultation in Homebuilders® to support sustainability?  
Yes
11. How do current providers of Homebuilders® services fund training of additional staff following turnover of staff trained in Homebuilders®? Can providers budget for anticipated staff turnover that results in additional training costs?  
A. Providers must submit an invoice for reimbursement.  
B. Yes
12. What is the cost to the provider for use of the Homebuilders® Online Management System? Can providers budget for this cost with grant funding?  
The Department is not aware of the exact cost, but the cost can be covered with grant funding.
13. What is the average number of accepted referrals per county in the current Homebuilders contract in the last year?  
The average between Greenville, Richland, and Charleston counties is 13. However, not all three of the counties were implemented for a full year.
14. What is the average number of direct care staff per county for the current contract? Is this full capacity?  
▪ 2 Families per FTE  
▪ 1 per Supervisor  
▪ Average number of direct care staff is 4 and 1 supervisor per county
15. What is the average weekly rate paid by DSS for service provision to the current Homebuilders provider per county.  
See answer to question #1.
16. How is the weekly rate for services computed?  
The weekly rate was developed through benchmarks from other jurisdictions.
17. Does this grant include a provision for all current training costs and the cost of training for additional staff as a result of attrition?  
Yes
18. What percent of families referred have completed?  
The overall completion percentage statewide from May 2021 – January 2022 was 67%.