

Taco Tuesday with TANF

11/19/19

Topic: TA-DVS Funds vs. JOBS Support Services

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<input type="checkbox"/>	District 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	District 8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	District 14
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	District 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	District 9	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	District 15
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TOPIC

Q: For travel needs, would we go for a bus if it was cheaper than getting plane tickets?

A: Yes. Plane travel can be difficult and expensive, especially if they are travelling with multiple children.

Always look at the most cost-effective travel option; sometimes that can be a plane.

CTM (Corporate Travel Management) can help you find the best travel options; their contact information is on the DV Staff Tools page. For all plane travel, DHS must use CTM.

Q: Are security cameras typically paid for?

A: JOBS Support Services don't usually pay for cameras, but maybe they can budget to cover other kinds of more cost-effective security devices, like a door sensor.

However, cameras are a common purchase with TA-DVS funds to provide for a safety need.

Q: How do we help someone wanting to use DV funds to move into new housing when they can't support rental costs ongoing?

A: Have a conversation to find out if they have other options to help them out until they secure employment that can allow them to cover rent ongoing.

This isn't grounds for denial, so work with them on their plan and ideas for how they can support themselves ongoing.

Q: Can DV funds help cover part of a down payment to move into a house?

A: Usually DV funds would cover security deposit and first month's rent.

Covering down payments is rare, but there may be circumstances where we can help with this. Contact TA-DVS Policy to staff these specific situations.

Q: Are there guidelines on how narration should be done on DV cases?

A: There is a Narrative Guide on the DV Staff Tools page.

We want to make sure that all the details are narrated well, because survivors often could move around to different locations.

Q: Would we use support services to cover gym memberships for someone reporting that it would be beneficial for self-improvement, or with an overweight child?

A: We could potentially pay month-by-month if it supports their plan, but we wouldn't be able to cover a payment for multiple months at a time, because we can't be sure they would still be eligible for support services during that entire time.

Q: What are the rules for paying ongoing costs?

A: TA-DVS funds cannot cover ongoing costs, and JOBS Support Services can cover on a month-by-month basis, only as long as it is supported by their plan.

Housing utilities have their own guidelines for Support Services; they can be paid up to two months within a three-month time period, with a total cap on how much can be paid.

Q: Is there a way to work around a DV applicant who is pregnant and stating that it would be difficult to get verification?

A: They can be eligible for TA-DVS based on their statement that they are pregnant, but we can't issue payment until we have verification.

TANF can't be opened until they provide verification of pregnancy, if that is the only dependent child.

There is no way around getting the verification, so find out what that challenge is and see if there is anything we can do to help. We can send a medical application marked "pregnancy" & "DV," which are both priority processing.

Q: If we have verification of pregnancy, can we waive the birth of the child to open TANF early?

A: Yes, if there is a domestic violence situation you can waive the requirement to be in late pregnancy.