

CHAPTER 256E

COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES

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256E.01 CITATION.

Sections 256E.01 to 256E.12 may be cited as the "community social services act."

History: 1979 c 324 s 1

256E.02 PURPOSE.

It is the purpose of the "community social services act" to establish a system of planning for and providing community social services administered by the boards of county commissioners of each county under the supervision of the commissioner of human services.

History: 1979 c 324 s 2; 1984 c 654 art 5 s 58

256E.03 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. For the purposes of sections 256E.01 to 256E.12 the terms defined in this section shall have the meanings given them, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Subd. 2. (a) "Community social services" means services provided or arranged for by county boards to fulfill the responsibilities prescribed in section 256E.08, subdivision 1, to the following groups of persons:

(1) families with children under age 18, who are experiencing child dependency, neglect or abuse, and also pregnant adolescents, adolescent parents under the age of 18, and their children;

(2) persons who are under the guardianship of the commissioner of human services as dependent and neglected wards;

(3) adults who are in need of protection and vulnerable as defined in section 626.557;

(4) persons age 60 and over who are experiencing difficulty living independently and are unable to provide for their own needs;

(5) emotionally disturbed children and adolescents, chronically and acutely mentally ill persons who are unable to provide for their own needs or to independently engage in ordinary community activities;

(6) persons with mental retardation as defined in section 252A.02, subdivision 2, or with related conditions as defined in section 252.27, subdivision 1, who are unable to provide for their own needs or to independently engage in ordinary community activities;

(7) drug dependent and intoxicated persons as defined in section 254A.02, subdivisions 5 and 7, and persons at risk of harm to self or others due to the ingestion of alcohol or other drugs;

(8) parents whose income is at or below 70 percent of the state median income and who are in need of child care services in order to secure or retain employment or to obtain the training or education necessary to secure employment; and

(9) other groups of persons who, in the judgment of the county board, are in need of social services.

(b) Except as provided in section 256E.08, subdivision 5, community social services do not include public assistance programs known as aid to families with dependent children, Minnesota supplemental aid, medical assistance, general assistance, general assistance medical care, or community health services authorized by sections 145A.09 to 145A.13.

Subd. 3. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of human services.

Subd. 4. "State social services plan" means the state social services plan developed pursuant to section 256E.04.

Subd. 5. "County plan" means the community social services plan required by section 256E.09.

Subd. 6. "County board" means the board of county commissioners in each county.

Subd. 7. "Human services board" means a board established pursuant to section 402.02, Laws 1974, chapter 293 or Laws 1976, chapter 340.

History: 1979 c 324 s 3; 1981 c 355 s 3; 1Sp1981 c 4 art 1 s 127; 1982 c 607 s 15; 1984 c 654 art 5 s 38,58; 1985 c 21 s 58; 1987 c 309 s 26; 1989 c 282 art 2 s 126

256E.04 BIENNIAL STATE PLAN.

Subdivision 1. The commissioner shall prepare a biennial social services plan and present the plan to the governor and the legislature. The commissioner shall update the plan biennially. The plan shall include:

(a) A statement of methods used to ensure intergovernmental coordination of state and local planning and delivery of community social services;

(b) A coordination statement setting forth the relationship of the state social services plan to any other federal, state or locally financed human services programs, including but not limited to, programs for the aged, children, the developmentally disabled, the chemically dependent, and programs related to corrections, education, vocational rehabilitation, mental health, housing, health, and employment; and

(c) A summary and analysis of all county biennial community social services plans.

The commissioner shall consult with the heads of human service related state departments and agencies in preparing the coordination statement required by this subdivision.

Subd. 2. Copies of the proposed state plan shall be made reasonably available to the public allowing sufficient time for public review and comment. Copies of the updated state social services plan shall be submitted to the governor and the legislature prior to the beginning of each biennium and shall be made available to the public.

History: 1979 c 324 s 4; 1981 c 355 s 4

256E.05 DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN SERVICES.

Subdivision 1. **General supervision.** The commissioner of human services shall supervise the community social services administered by the counties through standard-setting, technical assistance to the counties, approval of county plans, preparation of the state biennial plan, evaluation of community social services programs and distribution of public money for services. The commissioner shall establish minimum administrative and service standards for the provision of community social services by county boards of commissioners, by the promulgation of a permanent administrative rule under chapter 14.

Subd. 2. **Plan approval.** Within 45 days after submission of the community social services plan by the counties pursuant to section 256E.09, subdivision 4, the commissioner shall certify whether the plan fulfills the purposes and requirements of section 256E.09, state and federal law and the rules of the state agency. On certifying that the

plan does not do so, the commissioner shall state the reasons therefore, and the county shall have 30 days to submit a plan amended to comply with the requirements of the commissioner. If the county fails to resubmit a plan amended as required by the commissioner, the commissioner shall notify the county of the intention to reduce the next quarterly payment by an amount equal to one-third of one percent of the county's annual entitlement for each 30 day period during which the county fails to amend the plan as required by the commissioner. The county board has the right to appeal the commissioner's decision pursuant to section 256E.06, subdivision 10.

Subd. 3. Additional duties. The commissioner shall also:

(a) Provide necessary forms and instructions to the counties for plan format and information;

(b) To the extent possible, coordinate other categorical social service grant applications and plans required of counties so that the applications and plans are included in and are consistent with the timetable and other requirements for the community social services plan in subdivision 2 and section 256E.09;

(c) Provide to the chair of each county board, in addition to notice required pursuant to sections 14.05 to 14.36, timely advance notice and a written summary of the fiscal impact of any proposed new rule or changes in existing rule which will have the effect of increasing county costs for community social services;

(d) Provide training, technical assistance, and other support services to county boards to assist in needs assessment, planning, implementing, and monitoring social services programs in the counties;

(e) Design and implement a method of monitoring and evaluating social services, including site visits that utilize quality control audits to assure county compliance with applicable standards, guidelines, and the county and state social services plans;

(f) Design and implement a system that uses corrective action procedures as established in subdivision 5 and a schedule of fines to ensure county compliance with statutes, rules, federal laws, and federal regulations governing community social services. In determining the amount of the fine, the commissioner may consider the number of community social services clients or applicants affected by the county's failure to comply with the law or rule, the severity of the noncompliance, and the duration of the noncompliance as determined by the commissioner. Fines levied against a county under this subdivision must not exceed ten percent of the county's community social services allocation for the year in which the fines are levied;

(g) Design and implement an incentive program for the benefit of counties that perform at a level that consistently meets or exceeds the minimum standards in law and rule. Fines collected under paragraph (e) may be placed in an incentive fund and used for the benefit of counties that meet and exceed the minimum standards;

(h) Specify requirements for reports, including fiscal reports, according to section 256.01, subdivision 2, paragraph (17), to account for aids distributed under section 256E.06, funds from Title XX of the Social Security Act distributed under Minnesota Statutes, section 256E.07, claims under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, mental health funding, and other social service expenditures and activities; and

(i) Request waivers from federal programs as necessary to implement sections 256E.01 to 256E.12.

Subd. 4. Reduction of federal fiscal sanctions. The commissioner shall establish and maintain a monitoring program designed to reduce the possibility of noncompliance with federal laws and federal regulations that may result in federal fiscal sanctions. If a county is not complying with federal law or federal regulation and the noncompliance may result in federal fiscal sanctions, the commissioner may withhold a portion of the county's share of state and federal funds for that program. The amount withheld must be equal to the percentage difference between the level of compliance maintained by the county and the level of compliance required by the federal regulations, multiplied by the county's share of state and federal funds for the program. The state and federal funds may be withheld until the county is found to be in compliance with all

federal laws or federal regulations applicable to the program. If a county remains out of compliance for more than six consecutive months, the commissioner may reallocate the funds withheld to counties that are in compliance with the federal regulations.

Subd. 5. Corrective action procedure. The commissioner must comply with the following procedures when imposing fines under subdivision 3, paragraph (e), or reducing county funds under subdivision 4.

(a) The commissioner shall notify the county, by certified mail, of the statute, rule, federal law, or federal regulation with which the county has not complied.

(b) The commissioner shall give the county 30 days to demonstrate to the commissioner that the county is in compliance with the statute, rule, federal law, or federal regulation cited in the notice or to develop a corrective action plan to address the problem. Upon request from the county, the commissioner shall provide technical assistance to the county in developing a corrective action plan. The county shall have 30 days from the date the technical assistance is provided to develop the corrective action plan.

(c) The commissioner shall take no further action if the county demonstrates compliance.

(d) The commissioner shall review and approve or disapprove the corrective action plan within 30 days after the commissioner receives the corrective action plan.

(e) If the commissioner approves the corrective action plan submitted by the county, the county has 90 days after the date of approval to implement the corrective action plan.

(f) If the county fails to demonstrate compliance or fails to implement the corrective action plan approved by the commissioner, the commissioner may fine the county according to subdivision 3, paragraph (e), or may reduce the county's share of state or federal funds according to subdivision 4.

(g) The commissioner may not impose a fine or reduce funds under this subdivision if the county demonstrates that the commissioner failed to provide appropriate forms, guidelines, and technical assistance to enable the county to comply with the requirements.

(h) The county may appeal the fine or the reduction in funds under section 256E.06, subdivision 10.

Subd. 6. County obligation to fund community social services. Counties subject to a fine or reduction of funds under subdivision 5, paragraph (f), shall not reduce the level of funding of community social services to cover the cost of the fine or reduction of funds.

History: 1979 c 324 s 5; 1981 c 355 s 5,6; 1982 c 424 s 130; 1982 c 607 s 16; 1984 c 526 s 1; 1984 c 654 art 5 s 58; 1986 c 413 s 1; 1986 c 444; 1989 c 89 s 14-17; 1989 c 282 art 2 s 127

256E.06 DISTRIBUTION OF STATE AIDS.

Subdivision 1. Formula. The commissioner of human services shall distribute community social service aids to each county board in an amount determined according to the following formula:

In calendar year 1982 and thereafter:

(a) One-third shall be distributed on the basis of the average unduplicated number of persons who receive AFDC, general assistance, and medical assistance per month in the calendar year two years prior to the year for which funds are being distributed as reported in the average monthly caseload reports required under sections 256.01, 256B.04 and 256D.04, and certified by the commissioner of human services; and

(b) One-third shall be distributed on the basis of the number of persons residing in the county as determined by the most recent data of the state demographer;

(c) One-third shall be distributed on the basis of the number of persons residing in the county who are 65 years old or older as determined by the most recent data of the state demographer.

Subd. 2. **Formula limitation.** The amounts computed pursuant to subdivision 1 shall be subject to the following limitations:

(a) No county shall be allocated more than 130 percent of the amount received prior to any penalty imposed under subdivision 7 in the immediately preceding year. If the amount allocated to any county pursuant to subdivision 1 is greater than this amount, the excess shall be reallocated to all counties in direct proportion to their initial allocations.

(b) Each county shall be guaranteed a percentage increase over the previous year's allocation equal to 0.2 percent for each percentage increase in the statewide allocation, up to a maximum guaranteed increase of one percent when the statewide allocation increases by five percent or more. If the amount allocated to any county pursuant to subdivision 1 is less than this amount, the shortage shall be recovered from all counties in direct proportion to their initial allocations.

(c) If the amount to be allocated statewide in any year is less than the amount allocated in the previous year, then the provisions of clause (b) shall not apply, and each county's allocation shall be equal to its previous year's allocation reduced by the same percentage that the statewide allocation was reduced.

(d) For the purpose of calculating the 1991 community social services act allocation, the 1990 allocation must be increased by the following amounts: \$46,487 for Crow Wing county, \$21,995 for Fillmore county, \$5,368 for Hubbard county, \$24,225 for Lac Qui Parle county, and \$4,444 for Red Lake county.

Subd. 2a. [Repealed, 1987 c 403 art 5 s 22]

Subd. 3. **Payments to counties.** The commissioner of human services shall make payments for community social services to each county in four installments per year. The commissioner of human services may certify the payments for the first three months of a calendar year based on estimates of the unduplicated number of persons receiving AFDC, general assistance and medical assistance for the prior year. The following three payments shall be adjusted to reflect the actual unduplicated number of persons who received AFDC, general assistance and medical assistance as required by subdivision 1. The commissioner shall ensure that the pertinent payment of the allotment for that quarter is made to each county on the first working day after the end of each quarter of the calendar year, except for the last quarter of the calendar year. The commissioner shall ensure that each county receives its payment of the allotment for that quarter no later than the last working day of that quarter. This scheduling of payments does not require compliance with subdivision 10.

Subd. 4. [Repealed, 1981 c 355 s 34]

Subd. 5. **Community social service levy.** In each calendar year, for taxes payable the following year, a county board shall levy upon all taxable property in the county a tax for community social services at least equal to the amount determined in subdivisions 1 and 2. Money for community social services provided to a county by a municipal levy may, for the purposes of this section, be counted as partial fulfillment of the local levy requirement. All money available to counties pursuant to this section may be used by counties to match federal money.

Subd. 6. **Failure to spend.** A county which has not spent the aids granted under subdivision 1 for community social services within two years of receiving those aids shall receive a reduction in aid calculated pursuant to subdivision 1. This reduction shall be made in the calendar year which begins no more than 30 months after the underspending has occurred and shall be equal to one-half the amount of aids which were not spent.

Subd. 7. **Failure to levy.** A county which levies less than the levy required in subdivision 5, shall receive a reduction in the aid calculated pursuant to subdivisions 1 and 2. The commissioner shall calculate the reduced aid as follows:

(a) Divide the amount levied by the amount required to be levied in subdivision 5; and

(b) Multiply the ratio derived in clause (a) times the aid calculated under subdivisions 1 and 2.

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The amount of the reduction in aid shall be returned to the general fund. The reduction in aid imposed under this subdivision shall be effective for one year, and aid in the following year shall be calculated under subdivisions 1 and 2 as though the reduction had not occurred. This provision applies to penalties imposed for the year 1989 and all subsequent years.

Subd. 8. Inappropriate expenditures. Beginning in calendar year 1981, in counties containing a city of the first class, the distribution in aid provided in subdivision 1 shall be reduced by an amount equal to the community social service aids allocated pursuant to subdivision 1 in the immediately preceding year which have been spent for purposes other than community social services.

Subd. 9. Local government aid. Beginning in calendar year 1981 the distribution of local government aid pursuant to section 477A.012 shall be reduced by an amount equal to the community social service aids allocated pursuant to subdivision 1 in the immediately preceding year which have been spent for purposes other than community social services.

Subd. 10. Appeal. Prior to certifying any reduction in aids, the commissioner shall notify the county of the intention to certify a reduction. The commissioner shall notify the county of the right to a hearing. If the county requests a hearing within 30 days of notification of intention to reduce aids, the commissioner shall not certify any reduction in aids until a hearing is conducted and a decision rendered in accordance with the provisions of chapter 14 for contested cases.

Subd. 11. [Repealed, 1981 c 355 s 34]

History: 1979 c 324 s 6; 1981 c 355 s 7-9; 1Sp1981 c 1 art 6 s 8; 1Sp1981 c 4 art 1 s 128; 1982 c 424 s 130; 3Sp1982 c 1 art 2 s 5; 1983 c 312 art 1 s 23; art 9 s 9; 1984 c 654 art 5 s 58; 1985 c 21 s 59; 1986 c 413 s 2; 1986 c 444; 1990 c 568 art 2 s 63,64

256E.07 TITLE XX ALLOCATION.

Subdivision 1. Formula. In federal fiscal year 1985 and subsequent years, money for social services that is received from the federal government to reimburse counties for social service expenditures pursuant to title XX of the Social Security Act shall be allocated to each county according to the following formula:

(a) Two-thirds shall be allocated on the basis of the annual average number of unduplicated active monthly caseloads in each county in the following programs: aid to families with dependent children, medical assistance, general assistance, supplementary security income, and Minnesota supplemental aid.

(b) One-third shall be allocated on the basis of the number of persons residing in the county as determined by the most recent estimate of the state demographer.

(c) The commissioner shall allocate to the counties pursuant to this section the total money received from the federal government for social services pursuant to title XX of the Social Security Act, except that portion of the state's allocation which the legislature authorizes for administrative purposes and for migrant day care.

Subd. 1a. Phase-in. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 1, the allocation formula for federal fiscal years 1985 through 1993 is as follows:

(a) Whenever the amount of federal title XX funds available for allocation to counties is the same as the amount available in the previous fiscal year:

(1) Each county's current year formula share shall be determined pursuant to subdivision 1;

(2) For all counties whose previous year allocation exceeds its current year formula share, the difference shall be divided by the number of years remaining until federal fiscal year 1994; the resulting amount shall be subtracted from the previous year allocation to obtain the final allocation;

(3) For all counties whose current year formula share equals or exceeds its previous year allocation, any difference shall be divided by the number of years remaining until federal fiscal year 1994. The resulting amount shall be added to the previous year allocation to obtain the final allocation.

(b) Whenever the amount of federal title XX funds available for allocation to counties is less than the amount available in the previous year, the procedure described in clause (a) shall be followed, except that each county's previous year allocation shall mean its actual previous year allocation reduced in proportion to the reduction in federal fund availability.

(c) Whenever the amount of federal title XX funds available for allocation to counties is greater than the amount available in the previous year, the procedure described in clause (a) shall be followed, except that each county's previous year allocation shall mean:

- (1) the actual previous year allocation; plus
- (2) the amount to which the county would be entitled by apportioning 40 percent of the excess federal funds available according to the distribution formula contained in subdivision 1; plus
- (3) for all counties whose current year formula share exceeds the amount prescribed by items (1) and (2), the amount to which the county would be entitled by apportioning the remaining 60 percent of the excess federal funds available among the remaining counties according to the distribution formula contained in subdivision 1.

For the purposes of the federal fiscal year 1985 allocation, the federal fiscal year 1982 corrected allocation shall be considered the previous year allocation.

Subd. 1b. Unutilized funds. The commissioner of human services shall annually review the use of title XX allocations by county and, pursuant to the formula found in subdivision 1, reallocate unused money among those counties who have expended their full portion.

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1982 c 607 s 19]

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1984 c 654 art 5 s 59]

History: 1979 c 324 s 7; 1981 c 355 s 10,11; 1982 c 607 s 17; 1984 c 654 art 5 s 39-41,58

256E.08 DUTIES OF COUNTY BOARDS.

Subdivision 1. Responsibilities. The county board of each county shall be responsible for administration, planning and funding of community social services. Each county board shall singly or in combination with other county boards as provided in section 256E.09 prepare a social services plan and shall update the plan biennially. Upon final approval of the plan by the county board or boards, the plan shall be submitted to the commissioner. The county board shall distribute money available pursuant to sections 256E.06 and 256E.07 for community social services.

The authority and responsibilities of county boards for social services for groups of persons identified in section 256E.03, subdivision 2, shall include contracting for or directly providing:

- (1) information about the symptoms and characteristics of specific problems of the identified groups to increase understanding and acceptance by the general public, to help alleviate fears of seeking help, and to enable access to appropriate assistance;
- (2) an assessment of the needs of each person applying for assistance which estimates the nature and extent of the problem to be addressed and identifies the means available to meet the person's needs. These diagnostic and evaluation activities shall evaluate the functioning of each person with regard to an illness or disability, screen for placement, and determine the need for services;
- (3) protection aimed at alleviating urgent needs of each person by determining urgent need, shielding persons in hazardous conditions when they are unable to care for themselves, and providing urgently needed assistance;
- (4) supportive and rehabilitative activities that assist each person to function at the highest level of independence possible for the person, preferably without removing the person from home. These activities include both increasing the client's level of functioning and maintaining current levels of functioning;

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(5) a means of facilitating access of physically handicapped or impaired persons to activities appropriate to their needs; and

(6) administrative activities to coordinate and facilitate the effective use of formal and informal helping systems to best address client needs and goals. This includes assisting the client in making informed decisions about opportunities and services, assuring timely access to needed assistance, providing opportunities and encouragement for self-help activities, and coordinating all services to meet the client's needs and goals. County case management shall be responsible for determining appropriate care and activities.

A county board may delegate to a county welfare board established under chapter 393 authority to provide or approve contracts for the purchase of the kinds of community social services that were provided or contracted for by the county welfare boards before the enactment of Laws 1979, chapter 324. The county board must determine how citizens will participate in the planning process, give final approval to the community social services plan, and distribute community social services money.

Subd. 2. County staff. The board may appoint a director of community social services to serve at the pleasure of the board and to perform the administrative functions required of the board by sections 256E.01 to 256E.12. The board may assign to the director of community social services the duties of the welfare director as described in section 393.04.

Subd. 3. Administration of income maintenance programs. The county board may designate itself, a human services board, or a county welfare board to perform the functions of county welfare boards as prescribed in chapter 393 and assigned to county agencies in other law which pertains to the administration of income maintenance programs known as aid to families with dependent children, general assistance, Minnesota supplemental aid, medical assistance, general assistance medical care, and emergency assistance.

Subd. 4. Contracts for services. The county board may contract for community social services programs with a human services board, a multicounty board established by a joint powers agreement, other political subdivisions, or private organizations. The final approval of the community social services plan required in section 256E.09 shall be made by the county board of each county. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to negate any collective bargaining unit agreements that are operative on July 1, 1979 between currently existing exclusive representatives and the county.

Subd. 5. Community social services fund. In the accounts and records of each county there shall be created a community social services fund. All money provided for community social services programs under sections 256E.06 and 256E.07 and all other revenues; fees; grants-in-aid, including those from public assistance programs identified in section 256E.03, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), that pay for services such as child care, waived services under the medical assistance programs, alternative care grants, and other services funded by these programs through federal or state waivers; gifts; or bequests designated for community social services purposes shall be identified in the record of the fund and in the report required in subdivision 8. This fund shall be used exclusively for planning and delivery of community social services as defined in section 256E.03, subdivision 2. If county boards have joined for purposes of administering community social services, the county boards may create a joint community social services fund. If a human services board has been established, the human services board shall account for community social services money as required in chapter 402.

Subd. 6. Fees for services. The county board may, subject to approval of the commissioner, establish a schedule of fees based upon clients' ability to pay to be charged to recipients of community social services. Payment, in whole or in part, for services may be accepted from any person. When services are provided to any person, including a recipient of aids administered by the federal, state or county government, payment of any charges due may be billed to and accepted from a public assistance agency or from any public or private corporation.

Subd. 7. [Repealed, 1987 c 363 s 14]

Subd. 8. Reporting by counties. Beginning in calendar year 1980 each county shall submit to the commissioner of human services a financial accounting of the county's community social services fund, and other data required by the commissioner under section 256E.05, subdivision 3, paragraph (g), shall include:

(a) A detailed statement of income and expenses attributable to the fund in the preceding quarter; and

(b) A statement of the source and application of all money used for social services programs by the county during the preceding quarter, including the number of clients served and expenditures for each service provided, as required by the commissioner of human services.

In addition, each county shall submit to the commissioner of human services no later than February 15 of each year, a detailed balance sheet of the community social development fund for the preceding calendar year.

If county boards have joined or designated human service boards for purposes of providing community social services programs, the county boards may submit a joint statement or the human service board shall submit the statement, as applicable.

Subd. 9. Reduction in services prohibited. In calendar year 1983 the county board shall not reduce the funding provided in calendar year 1982 for the following service: cost of care for mentally retarded children, emotionally handicapped children, or children having epilepsy.

Subd. 10. Intercounty cooperation. Two or more contiguous counties that are situated within the boundaries of the same region designated pursuant to sections 462.381 to 462.396 or the metropolitan area as defined in section 473.121, subdivision 2, and that have not established a human services board may, by resolution of their respective county boards, agree to combine into one board for social service purposes to serve the counties that enter into the agreement. The joint board shall have the same powers, duties, and functions as the individual county boards. The term of the joint board, withdrawal from the joint board, composition of the board, and contribution to the expenses of the board shall be according to the terms of the agreement. Nothing in this section shall prevent a county board from purchasing services from an agency outside the boundaries of the Minnesota economic development region in which it is situated. A joint board established pursuant to this section may encompass completely two regions. Insofar as possible, social services which are jointly administered shall be equally accessible to all residents of the counties that are party to the agreement.

History: 1979 c 324 s 8; 1981 c 355 s 12-14; 1983 c 10 s 1; 1983 c 151 s 4; 1984 c 378 s 1; 1984 c 609 s 19; 1984 c 654 art 5 s 58; 1Sp1985 c 9 art 2 s 67; 1986 c 394 s 20; 1986 c 413 s 3; 1986 c 444; 1989 c 89 s 18,19; 1989 c 282 art 2 s 128; 1990 c 426 art 1 s 30

256E.09 COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICE PLANS.

Subdivision 1. Plan proposal. Beginning in 1989, and every two years after that, the county board shall publish and make available upon request to all county residents a proposed biennial community social services plan for the next two calendar years.

Subd. 2. Citizen participation. The county board shall provide opportunities for participation by citizens in the county, including representatives of users of services, in the development of the biennial plan and in the allocation of money for community social services. At least 60 days prior to publication of the proposed plan the county board shall publish the methods proposed to achieve citizen participation in the planning process.

Subd. 3. Plan content. The biennial community social services plan published by the county shall include:

- (a) A statement of the goals of community social service programs in the county;
- (b) Methods used pursuant to subdivision 2 to encourage participation of citizens and providers in the development of the plan and the allocation of money;

(c) Methods used to identify persons in need of service and the social problems to be addressed by the community social service programs, including efforts the county proposes to make in providing for early intervention, prevention and education aimed at minimizing or eliminating the need for services for groups of persons identified in section 256E.03, subdivision 2;

(d) A statement describing how the county will fulfill its responsibilities identified in section 256E.08, subdivision 1, to the groups of persons described in section 256E.03, subdivision 2, and a description of each community social service proposed and identification of the agency or person proposed to provide the service;

(e) A statement describing how the county proposes to make the following services available for persons identified by the county as in need of services: daytime developmental achievement services for children; day training and habilitation services for adults; extended employment program services for persons with disabilities; supported employment services as defined in section 252.41, subdivision 8; community-based employment programs as defined in section 268A.01, subdivision 11; subacute detoxification services; and residential services and nonresidential social support services as appropriate for the groups identified in section 256E.03, subdivision 2;

(f) A statement specifying how the county will collaboratively plan the development of supported employment services and community-based employment services with local representatives of public rehabilitation agencies and local education agencies, including, if necessary, how existing day or employment services could be modified to provide supported employment services and community-based employment services;

(g) A statement describing how the county is fulfilling its responsibility to establish a comprehensive and coordinated system of early intervention services as required under section 120.17, subdivisions 11a, 12, and 14;

(h) The amount of money proposed to be allocated to each service;

(i) An inventory of public and private resources including associations of volunteers which are available to the county for social services;

(j) Evidence that serious consideration was given to the purchase of services from private and public agencies; and

(k) Methods whereby community social service programs will be monitored and evaluated by the county.

Subd. 4. Plan submission. The county board of commissioners shall submit the biennial community social services plan to the commissioner of human services. The date of publication and submission to the commissioner shall be determined so that the plan is coordinated with the county budgeting process.

Subd. 5. Public notice. The county board shall make available to the public through publication or posting in public buildings the names and locations of agencies responsible for the provision of community social services.

Subd. 6. Plan amendment. After providing opportunity for public comment, the county may amend its plan. After approval of the amendment by the county board, the county shall submit its amendment to the commissioner. The commissioner shall certify whether the amendment fulfills the purpose and requirements of law and the rules of the state agency.

History: 1979 c 324 s 9; 1981 c 355 s 15-17; 1982 c 607 s 18; 1984 c 654 art 5 s 58; 1986 c 413 s 4; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 403 art 5 s 20; 1988 c 512 s 1; 1988 c 576 s 1; 1989 c 282 art 2 s 129,130

256E.10 PROGRAM EVALUATION.

Subdivision 1. County evaluation. Beginning in calendar year 1981, each county shall submit to the commissioner a report on the effectiveness of the community social service programs in the county. The commissioner in collaboration with county boards shall prescribe standard methods to be used by the counties in making the report. The report shall be submitted no later than March 1 of each year and shall include:

- (a) The number and type of recipients of each service; and
- (b) An evaluation on the basis of measurable program objectives and performance criteria for each county social service program.

Subd. 2. **Statewide evaluation.** At the end of the first year covered by the county biennial plan, the commissioner shall prepare a report on the counties' progress in carrying out their plan and make it available to interested parties.

At the end of each period covered by the counties' biennial community social services plan, the commissioner shall prepare an evaluation of the effectiveness of the prior two years performance of each program in relation to identified public social problems, stating the measurable goals, objectives, methods, and outcome for those years, including the extent to which the numbers of persons and families proposed to be served by each category of social service were actually served, the direct cost, and the administrative cost per unit of social service for each category.

History: 1979 c 324 s 10; 1981 c 355 s 18

256E.11 PILOT PROGRAMS.

Nothing in sections 256E.01 to 256E.12 shall prohibit the commissioner from making grants for pilot programs in certain counties or on a statewide basis when the legislature authorizes money to encourage innovation in community social services programs or to respond to the needs of a specified group of persons.

History: 1979 c 324 s 11

256E.115 SAFE HOUSES.

The commissioner shall have authority to make grants for pilot programs when the legislature authorizes money to encourage innovation in the development of safe house programs to respond to the needs of homeless youth.

History: 1989 c 282 art 2 s 131

256E.12 GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAMS FOR PERSONS WITH SERIOUS AND PERSISTENT MENTAL ILLNESS.

Subdivision 1. The commissioner shall establish a statewide program to assist counties in providing services to persons with serious and persistent mental illness as defined in section 245.462, subdivision 20. The commissioner shall make grants to counties to establish, operate, or contract with private providers to provide services designed to help persons with serious and persistent mental illness remain and function in their own communities. Grants received pursuant to this section may be used to fund community support services programs as specified in section 245.462, subdivision 6, and case management activities that cannot be billed to the medical assistance program under sections 256B.02, subdivision 8, and 256B.0625.

Subd. 2. To apply for a grant a county board shall submit an application and budget for the use of the money in the form specified by the commissioner. The commissioner shall make grants only to counties whose applications and budgets are approved by the commissioner. A county receiving a grant under this section shall finance at least ten percent of the cost of services for persons with serious and persistent mental illness from local resources, which may include private contributions and federal money.

Subd. 3. The commissioner shall allocate grants under this section to finance up to 90 percent of each county's costs for services to persons with serious and persistent mental illness. The commissioner shall promulgate permanent rules to govern grant applications, approval of applications, allocation of grants, and maintenance of financial statements by grant recipients. The commissioner shall specify requirements for reports, including quarterly fiscal reports, according to section 256.01, subdivision 2, paragraph (17). The commissioner shall require collection of data and periodic reports as the commissioner deems necessary to demonstrate the effectiveness of the services in helping persons with serious and persistent mental illness remain and function in their own communities.

History: 1979 c 324 s 12; 1981 c 355 s 19; 1984 c 640 s 32; 1Sp1985 c 9 art 2 s 68; 1986 c 349 s 2; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 403 art 2 s 109; 1988 c 689 art 2 s 205-207,268; 1989 c 89 s 20

NOTE: Laws 1980, Chapter 614, Section 29, Clause (i) reads:

"Notwithstanding the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 256E, a county board may delegate to a county welfare board established pursuant to Chapter 393, authority to provide, or approve contracts for the purchase of, the kinds of community social services that were provided or contracted for by county welfare boards prior to the enactment of Laws 1979, Chapter 324. Designation of the method for providing citizen participation in the planning process, final approval of the community social services plan and the distribution of community social services money shall be the responsibility of the county board."

256E.13 RIGHT TO RECEIVE SERVICES IN ANOTHER COUNTY.

A person who is eligible for extended employment services under this chapter has the right to request and receive services outside the county of financial responsibility. The county shall consider the request and shall not disapprove a request for extended employment services solely on the basis that the service is located outside the county.

History: 1988 c 512 s 2

256E.14 GRANTS FOR CASE MANAGEMENT FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION OR RELATED CONDITIONS.

For the biennium ending June 30, 1991, the commissioner shall distribute to counties the appropriation made available under this section for case management services for persons with mental retardation or related conditions as follows:

(1) one-half of the appropriation must be distributed to the counties according to the formula in section 256E.06, subdivision 1; and

(2) one-half of the appropriation must be distributed to the counties on the basis of the number of persons with mental retardation or a related condition that were receiving case management services from the county on the January 1 preceding the start of the fiscal year in which the funds are distributed.

History: 1989 c 282 art 6 s 31