

December 28, 2012

Patrick J. O'Donnell, Clerk  
Nebraska State Legislature  
Room 2018, State Capitol  
P.O. Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4604

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. section 68-1518 of the Disabled Person and Family Support Act, please find the enclosed annual report indicating the number of clients who applied for and were served by the program, types of services applied for and provided, effects of support on clients with disabilities and their families.

If you have additional questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact Heather Krieger, at (402) 471-9155.

Sincerely,



Vivianne M. Chaumont, Director  
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care  
Department of Health and Human Services

Enclosure

**FY 2012 Annual Report  
Disabled Persons and Family Support Program**

Prepared by Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to  
Neb. Rev. Stat. § 68-1518

The Disabled Persons and Family Support (DPFS) Program provides state-funded assistance to individuals of all ages who meet specified income and disability criteria. Eligible individuals may receive funding up to \$300 a month or \$3,600 annually for services such as personal care, housekeeping, transportation, special equipment, and vehicle or home modifications. The Program does not operate as an entitlement and services are intended to supplement, but not replace or duplicate, support available through other programs for which the family or disabled person is eligible.

❖ **Number of persons applying for and receiving support**

659 persons applied for DPFS services or had their eligibility for services re-determined in FY 2012. Of these, 486 persons were served at an annual cost of \$910,000.

<u>Ages of Clients</u>	<u>Number of Clients</u>
Children (Birth-18)	1
Adults (19-64)	88
Elderly (65-105)	397
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>

Of the population served in FY 2012, 74% were female and 26% male; 39% lived in Lancaster and Douglas counties, while 61% resided in the balance of the state.

❖ **Types of services and programs being applied for and provided**

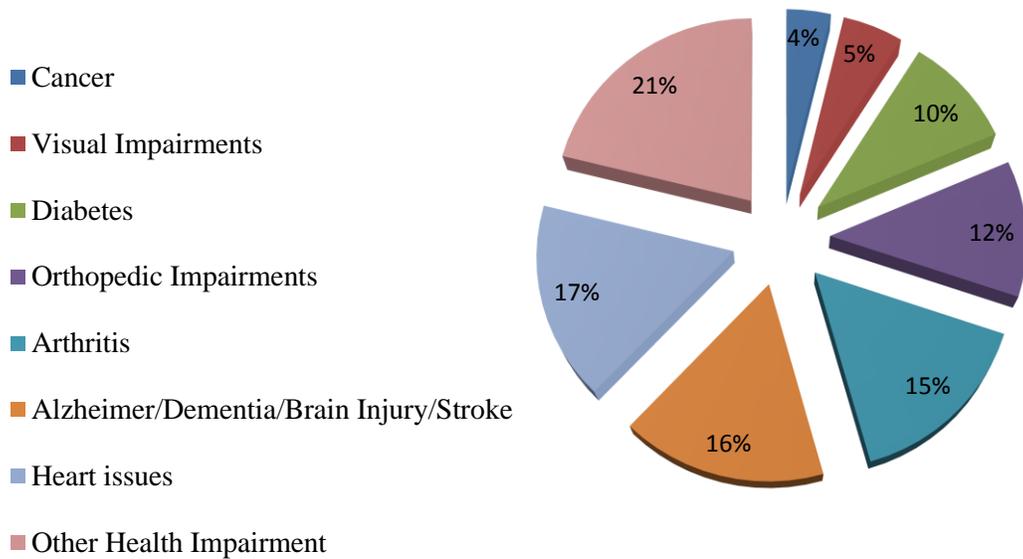
Funding for DPFS has remained level since 1988. Referrals frequently come from Area Agencies on Aging staff assisting persons discharged from either a hospital or nursing facility to their own home. Of the 486 served in FY 2012, 413 individuals did not qualify for Medicaid and were not eligible for other programs. DPFS workers screen all applications to assure that other funding sources are accessed when appropriate.

Applications are prioritized so that individuals with a personal care need are served first. Personal care includes assistance with essential daily activities such as bathing, dressing, eating, and preparing meals.

Individuals receiving in home supportive services have disclosed a range of health impairments which included:

Program Diagnosis Data

\*Note: Clients served may have multiple diagnoses\*



DPFS assistance during SYF 12 averaged \$1,873.00 per person. The types of services provided are presented in the following table:

DPFS Services	# of persons
Personal Care	405
Housekeeping	300
Home Delivered Meals	108
Incontinent Supplies	49
Architectural Modifications	33
Special Equipment	17
Mileage	14
Vehicle Modifications	7
Transportation	5
Meals	5
Lodging	3

### ❖ **Effects of support on clients with disabled and their families**

The following case synopses illustrate the impact of DPFS support for six clients. Individuals served by the program have differing personal situations and may have service needs that vary in scope, amount, and duration. These examples demonstrate how DPFS services are used and are coordinated with other types of assistance to meet the clients' specific needs.

Client 1 – Judy, age 65, suffered a stroke in 2003. She also has an inoperable brain tumor, uses oxygen due to respiratory issues, and ambulates with a walker due to her balance issues. The program provides support through with personal care and housekeeping services. Judy's monthly income is approximately \$1,200.00 per month and the \$300.00 allotment of program funds enables Judy to live in an independent living arrangement in Omaha. She is very appreciative for the assistance and opportunity to remain in her home.

Client 2 – Patsy, age 63, she has recently moved in with her daughter in rural Nebraska due to health issues. Patsy requires daily home dialysis and needs assistance with personal hygiene and mobility. The program provides her the ability to receive care from her family in their home.

Client 3 – Agnes is 91 and lives with her son in Central Nebraska. Agnes uses a wheelchair for mobility and her son assists with most of her daily needs. Through the program, Agnes receives bathing assistance so that this service does not have to be provided by her son. The program also supports home delivered meals and incontinence products for Agnes to enable her to remain at home where she is happy.

Client 4 – At age 82, Wilmer lives independently in Eastern Nebraska. He has a diagnosis of neuromuscular disorder which severely limits his ability to care for himself. In addition, he has heart and respiratory issues. Wilmer needs help with bathing, catheter care, grocery shopping, bill paying, and medical transportation. According to the recent Doctor's report, which is required with the client's application, Wilmer is able to stay home with assistance that is offered through the program.

Client 5 - Christopher is 24 and has a traumatic brain injury. He requires care for all of his activities of daily living. In order for him to leave the nursing facility and live with his family in a community setting, entrance modification was needed to provide him accessibility into the family home. DPFS supported this modification request and funded the project so that Christopher was able to move home with his family.

Client 6 - Nancy is 66 and works part-time. She has a diagnosis of post-polio syndrome which has limited her ability to only the uses of the fingers on her right hand. She continues to reside in her own home. The program contributes \$300 to meeting her daily care needs to support Nancy continuing to remain in her home.

### ❖ **Proposals for amendment of sections 68-1501 to 68-1519**

No amendments to the DPFS statutes are proposed.