

# NORTHEAST FLORIDA HEALTHY START COALITION, INC.

## Funding Allocation Process

**Purpose:** This document provides an overview of the annual process used by the Coalition to allocate state Healthy Start dollars to agencies for the purpose of providing Healthy Start care coordination and related services to at-risk pregnant women and families with infants.

**Responsibilities:** The Coalition's Contracts & QI Committee annually reviews a draft allocation recommendation prepared by staff. Committee recommendations are presented to the Board of Directors for final action.

### **Timeline:**

- May – Coalition allocations are received from the state Department of Health.
- May (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday) – Draft allocations are reviewed and approved by the Contracts & QI Committee.
- May (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday) – Committee recommendations are presented to the Board of Directors for final action.
- June (dates TBD) – Agencies present fiscal year budgets based on the allocation, and performance and outcome measures to the Contracts & QI Committee for consideration. Committee reviews and approves agency budgets, performance and outcome measures.
- June (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday) – Full Coalition takes final action on committee recommendations.
- By July 1 – Healthy Start contracts are prepared for Board and agency signature.

**Funding Criteria:** The following are considerations used to determine the annual allocation of Healthy Start dollars:

1. Community need, as identified in the Healthy Start Service Delivery Plan.
2. Agency performance (service delivery and cost-effectiveness) as reflected in its most recent annual QI site visit report.
3. Accessibility to target population, including past success in identifying and engaging at-risk pregnant women and families.
4. Other county or population-specific factors identified by the Coalition.

Updated May, 2009

## **2009-2010 Healthy Start Funding Allocation Guiding Principles**

Implementation of a new methodology for allocating state Healthy Start and Medicaid waiver dollars to coalition areas resulted in a reduction of funding for Northeast Florida in 2009-2010. The 2009-2010 allocation of funding is based on the following principles:

1. Individual agency/program strengths should be supported and expanded, where possible.
2. The delivery of intensive case management and risk reduction services (Level III) should be maintained and expanded, where possible.
3. Opportunities to deliver key services that drive the new funding allocation (initial contacts, for example) should be optimized.
4. Priority should be given to funding providers that deliver services that can be coded to Healthy Start.
5. The viability and integrity of agencies that are the sole providers in a county should be protected to the extent possible.
6. Performance incentives should be expanded to include additional criteria that impact the funding methodology.

### **Proposed Performance Incentives**

Four additional criteria for performance incentives are proposed for the 2009-2010 contracts. Fifteen percent of each agency's budget will be paid based on achievement of these objectives. Performance levels for the objectives will be proposed by each agency and approved by the Coalition as part of the contract/budget approval process. Proposed criteria include:

1. Level III encounters (5%).
2. Initial contacts (5%).
3. Number of services provided (3%).
4. Interconception education and support services provided to families of infants enrolled in Healthy Start (2%).