FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 27, 2012

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Opportunity to Apply for Project Funds to Improve the Lives of Nursing Home Residents

-Tallahassee, Fla.—The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) is now accepting applications from qualified entities who are interested in civil money penalty (CMP) funds that can benefit nursing home residents. CMP funds may be used for activities that help residents, including projects that enhance the quality of life for nursing home residents, support resident and family councils and improve the quality of care in nursing homes.

The funds are collected as federally-imposed civil money penalties by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) from long-term care facilities for failing to maintain compliance with federal requirements.

“These projects demonstrate a reinvestment of penalties assessed and will be used to improve services and care directly to nursing home residents,” said Secretary Liz Dudek. “I encourage all eligible organizations to apply because these funds can be used to make a difference in the lives of some of our most vulnerable residents.”

Examples of organizations that may qualify include, but are not limited to, consumer advocacy organizations, resident or family councils, professional associations, state long-term care ombudsman programs, quality improvement organizations and private contractors.

A complete copy of the application and instructions can be found on the Agency’s website at www.ahca.myflorida.com/longtermcare. The application and supporting documents must be reviewed by the Agency by November 1, 2012, and will be forwarded to CMS for final review and approval. Proposed projects should not be scheduled to begin before January 1, 2013.

The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida’s Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 40,000 health care facilities and 37 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov.

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