

As individuals begin to receive Economic Impact Payments (i.e., stimulus checks), providers of home- and community- based services are asked to be on the lookout for any financial exploitation red flags and remain mindful of the purpose of the EIP funds. Please note that EIP payments are not counted in MaineCare eligibility determinations, including the calculation of cost of care for residential and nursing facilities, and should not prompt an increase in room and board cost as the funds are intended to directly benefit the individuals who receive the payments. As always, guardians have a fiduciary duty to expend the funds of an adult subject to guardianship for the adult's support and care and in accordance with the adult's wishes to the greatest extent feasible. If you have any concerns that a member's stimulus check has been diverted by anyone or used for a purpose unrelated to the member, please contact Adult Protective Services Intake at 1-800-624-8404. More information on financial exploitation red flags can be found in the Mandated Reporter Training available here:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oads/aps-guardianship/documents/APS-Mandated-Reporter-Training-2020.ppsx>. Thank you for your continued dedication and vigilance during this difficult time.