



NOTICE 0520517

DATE: May 8, 2020
TO: AAA Directors; AAA Fiscal Officers
FROM: Ursel J. McElroy, Director
RE: MHAS Purchasing Information
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Throughout the state, obtaining critical supplies to serve older Ohioans has become a significant challenge. Area Agencies on Aging have worked diligently to find medical and other personal care supplies from traditional suppliers but have found difficulty locating supplies on a consistent basis.

To assist with providing market options for Area Agencies on Aging, the Ohio Department of Aging (ODA), has worked with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (MHAS) to provide access to the Ohio Pharmacy Services Program.

The Ohio Pharmacy Services program specializes in providing access to medical and pharmacy supplies and personal care (health and beauty) products as well as pharmaceuticals, over-the-counter medications and office supplies. Eligibility to purchase through the program is extended to both public and nonprofit entities within Ohio.

ODA's Chief Financial Officer, Jeff Jordan, has worked with Steve Knight, manager of the Ohio Pharmacy Services program, to explain the AAAs needs. The MHAS program staff are prepared that AAAs may be reaching out to access this market as a potential location to procure materials.

In order to participate, AAAs will need to contact the Ohio Pharmacy Services program at 1-888-471-5632 to request enrollment in the program. Program staff will assist AAA staff in registering for the system and providing guidance on how to access the catalog of materials for sale. Additionally, they will provide information on how the materials can be delivered or drop shipped to locations around the state.

Please note, in conversations with Mr. Knight, if an item is needed by a AAA but is not a part of the catalog, AAAs should inquire about placing a special order and if a recurring item, if it can be added to the regular offerings of the service.

Thank you for your and your teams' continued commitment.

UJM/jmj

Fostering sound public policy, research, and initiatives that benefit older Ohioans.