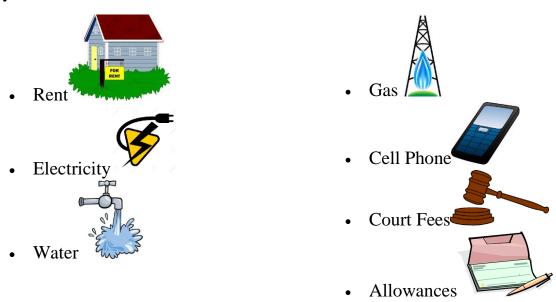
## Benefits of Representative Payee Services

Individuals in Need of Representative Payee Services are at a great risk of Institutionalization whether in a medical facility or in the correctional system. Representative Payee services aim to increase independence, enhance financial security, and prevent financial exploitation. Payee Services ensure on time payment of:



- Meet basic needs and avoid homelessness, malnutrition, and other risks associated with disability.
- Provide an alternative way for a loving family to manage a relative's care.
- Encourage Consumer Participation in budgeting and managing bills for a greater sense of empowerment.
- Receive Management services by trained, **trustworthy**, knowledgeable, professional staff who safeguard information and services.
- Avoid extra fees and life threatening situations by making payments directly and timely to companies and property owners.

<u>Signs of Financial Exploitation and (or) Abuse</u>: financial Abuse involves unauthorized use of an individual's funds or property, by either a family member, caregiver, or a stranger. Signs of financial abuse:

- Significant withdrawals from accounts
- Unpaid medical bills or lack of medical care
- Unnecessary services, goods, or subscriptions
- Financial Activity the elderly or disabled could have not done.
- Changes in the person's financial situation
- Items or Cash missing from the household.