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### **HOME Choice Demonstration and Supplemental Services**

Demonstration and supplemental HOME Choice services fill gaps within Ohio's existing long term service and support system by wrapping around existing waiver and Medicaid state plan services. Demonstration and supplemental services, along with existing qualified home and community-based waiver services and non-acute Medicaid state plan services and supports, make up the service package available to HOME Choice participants.

Waiver service packages vary from waiver to waiver, and more specifically, from participant to participant depending on their unique needs and medical necessity. Likewise HOME Choice demonstration services are available to participants only when a similar service is not available on the waiver on which the participant is enrolled. HOME Choice demonstration services are intended to address unmet needs that arise when a participant is not enrolled on a waiver, or when one waiver offers a particular service and another does not. For instance, social work/counseling is available to participants enrolled on the PASSPORT Waiver and the Individual Options Waiver, but it is not currently available to participants enrolled on the Level One, Ohio Home Care, Transitions and Transitions II Aging Carve-Out Waivers, or through the Medicaid state plan. HOME Choice social work/counseling will be available to those waiver participants, as well as to the HOME Choice participants who are not enrolled on a waiver, in order to address these participants' unmet service needs. Similarly, waiver nursing is only available on ODJFS-administered waivers. During the 365-day HOME Choice demonstration period, participants enrolled on the Individual Options, Level One and PASSPORT Waivers, and non-waiver HOME Choice participants, will have access to intermittent nursing via the HOME Choice nursing service as a demonstration service.

Yet another example of "gap-filling" involves nutritional consultation. Potential HOME Choice participants who have been institutionalized and are used to having their food delivered from the cafeteria or dietary department will benefit from guidance about nutrition and their special dietary needs. Currently, nutritional consultation is an existing qualified service on ODA- and ODMR/DD-administered waivers, but it is not available on ODJFS-administered waivers or through the Medicaid state plan. Nutritional consultation services will be available during the HOME Choice demonstration period as a demonstration service.

In contrast, because community support coach is not available on any waiver in Ohio, it is available to all HOME Choice participants.

Supplemental HOME Choice services, i.e., communication aid services and service animals, are available to all participants depending upon individual need and medical necessity, and regardless of whether or not the service can be accessed in some form through an existing waiver service. For example, all of the waivers offer some sort of adaptive/assistive/equipment service. A communication device that allows voice commands to lock/unlock doors, etc., could well be purchased as part of that service, but because waivers are restricted by cost caps and service reimbursement limits, such a

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device could use up all of the available waiver funds and prohibit the HOME Choice participant enrolled on a waiver from maintaining the device and/or purchasing additional needed equipment.

Medicaid providers who are already approved or certified by ODJFS, ODA, ODMR/DD or the Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) to provide a service that is similar to a particular HOME Choice service can be deemed an approved HOME Choice provider. For instance, a registered nurse who has been approved to provide waiver nursing by ODJFS can be approved as a HOME Choice nursing service provider if he or she meets all applicable provider requirements for HOME Choice, and the particular service.

HOME Choice demonstration and supplemental services are as follows:

<i>HOME Choice Demonstration Services</i>	<i>HOME Choice Supplemental Services</i>
Independent Living Skills Training	Transition Coordination
Community Support Coaching	Community Transition Services
HOME Choice Nursing Services	Communication Aids
Social Work/Counseling	Service Animals
Nutritional Consultation	
Community Transition Services	

### *HOME Choice Demonstration Services*

"Independent living skills training" is information and educational supports and resources provided to a HOME Choice participant or group of participants for the purpose of developing or increasing the skills, knowledge or abilities needed to live more independently. Training focuses on financial management, social skills development, health management, home management, personal skills and community living skill-building.

"Community support coaching" is a service provided for the purpose of guiding, educating and empowering the HOME Choice participant, authorized representative and family members during the participant's transition from an institution into the community.

"HOME Choice nursing services" are intermittent nursing services provided to participants that require the skills of a registered nurse (RN) or licensed practical nurse at the direction of an RN. All nurses providing HOME Choice nursing services must provide services within the nurse's scope of practice as set forth in Ohio's Nurse Practice Act and Administrative Code rules adopted hereunder. Additionally, they must possess a current and valid license in good standing with the Ohio Board of Nursing.

"Social work/counseling services" are transitional services provided to a HOME Choice participant, authorized representative, caregiver and/or family member on a short-term basis to promote the participant's physical, social and emotional well-being. Social

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work/counseling services promote the development and maintenance of a stable and supportive environment for the participant. Services can include crisis interventions, grief counseling and/or other social service interventions that support the HOME Choice participant's health and welfare. Social work/counseling services do not take the place of case management services or transition coordination, nor do they include social services provided to the HOME Choice participant's authorized representative, caregiver and/or family member that are unrelated to the HOME Choice participant.

"Nutritional consultation services" are services providing guidance to a HOME Choice participant who has special dietary needs. They take into consideration the participant's cultural and ethnic background and dietary preferences and/or restrictions.

### *Pre-Transitional Supplemental Services*

"Transition coordination services" are services available to HOME Choice participants in the HOME Choice pre-transition period to help each participant plan and arrange for services and supports that will be needed while moving from an institution into the community. Transition coordination services include:

- Housing navigation that assists the participant in securing appropriate housing;
- Coordination of benefits for which the HOME Choice participant may be eligible and that will allow him or her to move and live safely in the community; and
- All other activities necessary to achieve transition to the community.

Transition coordination services end on the day the HOME Choice participant moves into the community. If the participant experiences a significant change, or would need to relocate to other housing in order to assure continued health and welfare, then the participant's waiver case manager, Services and Support Administrator, or non-waiver HOME Choice care coordinator will assist the participant in identifying and linking him or her to other community resources that will address those needs.

Providers of transition coordination services will vary by service delivery system. ODJFS will enter into provider agreements with local entities to provide transition coordination services in the ODJFS and ODA service delivery systems. Each system currently furnishes what is known as administrative case management. Neither system's case managers currently provide the breadth of activities necessary to ensure successful community transitions. By way of provider agreements, the entities providing transition coordination will be the regional long term care ombudsman programs.

In the MR/DD delivery system, county boards of mental retardation and developmental disabilities will provide transition coordination as part of the targeted case management service the system provides to its waiver consumers. If more than 60 days are needed to achieve a community transition, the additional time will be billed as a supplemental service. As a result, transition coordination in the MR/DD system may be both a qualified service and a supplemental service.

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ODMH may, in time, provide transition coordination either directly or through agreements with designees for HOME Choice participants identified by the mental health system. These participants may also elect to receive transition coordination from a center for independent living or a regional long term care ombudsman program.

Ohio recognizes that all waivers will need to conform to the most current Federal case management regulations when the waivers come up for renewal or by March 3, 2010, whichever occurs first.

"Community transition services" are goods, services and supports that are provided to the HOME Choice participant for the purpose of addressing identified needs, including improving and maintaining the participant's opportunities for membership in the community. Community transition services are intended to:

- Decrease the need for formal support services and other Medicaid services;
- Take into consideration the appropriateness and availability of a lower cost alternative for comparable services that meet the participant's needs;
- Promote community inclusion and family involvement;
- Increase the HOME Choice participant's health and welfare in the home and/or community;
- Assist the HOME Choice participant when he or she does not have the funds available through another source;
- Assist the HOME Choice participant in developing and maintaining personal, social physical and/or work-related skills; and
- Assist the HOME Choice participant in living independently in the home and community.

### **Post-transitional Supplemental Services**

"Communication aids" are devices, systems or services necessary to assist the HOME Choice participant with hearing, speech or vision impairments to effectively communicate with service providers, family, friends and the general public. Communication aids include, but are not limited to:

- Augmentative communication devices or systems that transmit or produce a message or symbols in a manner that compensates for the HOME Choice participant's communication impairment;
- Computers, computer equipment and other mechanical and electronic devices;
- Cable and internet access;
- Installation, repair, maintenance and support of any covered communication aid; and
- Interpreter services.

"Service animals" are animals that are individually trained to perform tasks for HOME Choice participants that they are unable to perform themselves. Service animals also assist people with disabilities in their day-to-day activities. Tasks include:

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- Guiding HOME Choice participants who are blind;
- Alerting HOME Choice participants who are deaf;
- Pulling wheelchairs;
- Alerting and protecting HOME Choice participants who are having a seizure;
- Carrying and picking up things for HOME Choice participants with mobility impairments; and
- Assisting HOME Choice participants who have mobility impairments with balance.

"Community transition services" as described above, is the only service that can be provided both before and after a HOME Choice participant relocates into the community. The service allows the participant to purchase items they need before they move, i.e., the bed, the sheets, etc. However, it also affords the participant the ability to purchase other needed items once they are settled in their new home, i.e., the can opener, dish towels, etc., so long as the participant has not exceeded his or her allotted budget.

Ohio has designed demonstration and supplemental services to be time-limited, and in some cases, similar to existing waiver and state plan services, in order to ensure a continued smooth transition for participants after their demonstration period ends.

The State will analyze the utilization and effectiveness of all of these demonstration and supplemental "gap filler" services during the demonstration period to determine whether they should be added permanently to any or all of the waiver benefit packages. Participants will then have the opportunity to continue receiving needed services through home and community-based service waivers and/or the Medicaid state plan as long as they continue to either meet waiver eligibility requirements or maintain Medicaid eligibility to continue to receive state plan services.