



Department of Job and Family Services

Ted Strickland, Governor
Douglas E. Lumpkin, Director

Date: July 30, 2009

To: Nursing Facility Administrator

From: Erika C. Robbins, MFP Project Director

In January of 2007, Ohio was one of 30 states to receive funding for the "Money Follows the Person" (MFP) demonstration project enacted by Congress as part of the Federal Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005.

Ohio has developed a transition program, known as HOME Choice. Nursing facilities are key to the success of the demonstration project by serving as referral sources!

Nursing facilities, with residents meeting HOME Choice eligibility requirements, can use the HOME Choice program to help them with their discharge planning!

The HOME Choice program has partnered with the following agencies to provide transition coordination to residents.

- Ohio Centers for Independent Living
Brain Injury Association of Ohio
Long Term Care Ombudsmen Program
County Boards of MR/DD and Councils of Government created under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code
ODMH designated MH agencies
ODJFS designated agencies

If you have any questions about the HOME Choice program, feel free to contact the name and number below:

Transition Coordinator Name and Agency Representation

Transition Coordinator Phone Number and E-mail Address

30 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
jfs.ohio.gov

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Helping Ohioans Move, Expanding Choice
Ohio's Money Follows the Person (MFP)
Demonstration Project
CFDA # 93.791



Fact Sheet and Frequently Asked Questions

What is HOME Choice?

HOME Choice is a "Money Follows the Person" demonstration project funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), to help the state of Ohio transition approximately 2200 people from long-term care facilities to home settings.

HOME Choice is also charged with *initiating a movement to balance* to Ohio's long-term service and support structure.

Who is eligible for HOME Choice?

Candidates for the HOME Choice project can be of any age, but must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Have lived in a facility setting for at least six months
- Be eligible for Medicaid
- Have care needs that would otherwise be met only by a long-term care facility
- Agree (or a parent or guardian agrees) to requirements of program
- Move into a qualified setting such as an apartment or a home with no more than 4 unrelated persons.

The HOME Choice project will relocate approximately 2,200 older adults and people with disabilities from facilities to home and community-based settings.

How does HOME Choice work?

Once persons are determined to be eligible for HOME Choice, a **transition coordinator** will work with them to develop comprehensive transition plans before they move.

Transitions plans include locating suitable housing, benefits coordination, and linking to community resources.

To ensure continued care after the person has transitioned into a home setting and HOME Choice ends, HOME Choice recipients will also be enrolled on existing waiver programs or state plan Medicaid services.



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What kind of services will HOME Choice provide?

In addition to transition coordination, HOME Choice demonstration and supplemental services may include up to \$2,000 for goods and services, independent living skills training, community support coach, nutritional consultation, nursing, and social work/counseling. One-time services may include communications aids or service animals. Visit <http://jfs.ohio.gov/OHP/consumers/homechoice.stm> for more information.

When did the HOME Choice project begin?

The HOME Choice Transition Program opened for enrollment on October 20, 2008. It will continue to enroll people until the maximum number of people funded in the project (approximately 2200) has been enrolled or until the project ends which is September 30, 2011.

Where will the project operate?

HOME Choice will be available in each of Ohio's 88 counties.

Why is HOME Choice needed?

HOME Choice supports the vision of people being able to choose where they live and receive services, transitioning people who want to live in the community, and implementing a system that ensures person-centered and quality services in a home setting.

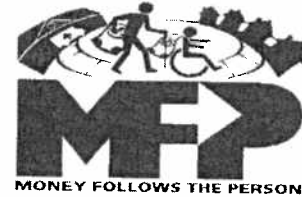
HOME Choice, and another initiative called the Unified Long-Term Care Budget, will serve as the foundation for a movement to balance Ohio's long-term service and support system.

Who administers HOME Choice?

HOME Choice is administered by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services' Office of Ohio Health Plans.



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Who can I contact for more information?

HOME Choice Intake and Care Coordination Unit
Office of Ohio Health Plans
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
PO Box 182709
Columbus OH 43218 2709
(614) 466 6742
(614) 466-6945

Or, you can contact a participating County Board of MR/DD, Long Term Care Ombudsmen Program, Center for Independent Living, Brain Injury Association of Ohio, or Mental Health Agency. Visit <http://jfs.ohio.gov/OHP/consumers/docs/ProvidersByType.pdf> for a complete provider listing. You can also contact the HOME Choice Care Coordination Unit at 1-888-221-1560.

What is Transition Coordination?

Transition Coordination is a service that will help the resident plan for the move into the community. As a nursing facility, you will work with a transition coordinator who will help the resident to find benefits, secure housing, link with community services and make detailed plans for the services needed to move and stay in the community.

What happens after a resident moves into the community?

The resident is enrolled in the Home and Community Based Service program (either waiver or state plan) that is identified to best meet their needs. In addition to the typical services received from these programs, the resident also receives the HOME Choice Demonstration and Supplemental Services for the first year that they live in the community.