



Money Follows the Person (MFP) Demonstration



Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission
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Overview

- Background
- Demonstration results
- Timeline for demonstration's end
- State sustainability plans
- Policy questions
- Next steps

Money Follows the Person

- First authorized through fiscal year (FY) 2011 by the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005
- Extended through FY 2016 by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (ACA)
- Total of \$4 billion in funding
- Assists states in improving access to HCBS
- CMS first began making awards in 2007
- Currently, 43 states and the District of Columbia are participating

Transition Support

- Assists beneficiaries who have resided in an institution for at least 90 days in returning to the community
- Beneficiaries receive HCBS beyond what is provided under a state's existing HCBS programs
 - For example, additional personal care services or payment of security deposit
- States earn an enhanced match for certain services
 - Varies by state, cannot exceed 90 percent

Other Program Components

- Enhanced match from transition support is used to fund efforts to increase HCBS utilization
 - Reducing waiting lists
 - Housing supports
- Reimbursement for administrative costs such as investments in information technology to support the demonstration
- Technical assistance provided to participating states at no additional cost

MFP Demonstration Results

- As of December 2015, participating states had transitioned 63,337 beneficiaries back to the community
- The number of transitions varied widely by state
 - Over half were in seven states (CA, CT, MD, MI, OH, TX, and WA)
- Most transitions in calendar year (CY) 2015 were for individuals with physical disabilities and seniors
- Unclear whether beneficiaries would have transitioned if the MFP program did not exist

MFP Demonstration Results

- States have varied in their achievement of transition goals
- Lack of affordable and accessible housing has been reported as a major challenge to states' efforts to transition beneficiaries
- States used enhanced match most frequently to expand or enhance HCBS waiver programs
- HCBS spending has increased, but 20 states spent below their targets in CY 2015

Timeline for Demonstration's End

- The ACA funded MFP awards through FY 2016, but states have until FY 2020 to claim funds
- All states that transitioned beneficiaries in 2015 have approved budgets for 2016 to 2020
- Some states will end transitioning beneficiaries in 2017, others in 2018
- As part of final awards states had to submit sustainability plans describing the services they would continue after the demonstration's end

Sustainability Plans

- States intend to continue supporting beneficiary transitions back to the community
- States may not continue to provide some services because they were not highly utilized or beneficiaries did not find them helpful
- Sustained services will need to be incorporated into existing HCBS programs if they are not already
 - May be limited by state budget pressures
 - If states are not able to make these changes, transition services may be restricted to certain populations

Policy Questions

- Has the MFP demonstration been successful in achieving its intended goals?
- Is a permanent enhanced federal funding stream needed to support transitions?
- What is the appropriate role of Medicaid in supporting the housing needs of HCBS users?

Next Steps

- HHS Report to Congress under review
- Feedback for future MACPAC work



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