



New York State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities Money Follows the Person (MFP) Overview Fact Sheet August 2014

Purpose of MFP

- The purpose of the New York State MFP Demonstration is to enable New York State to transform long-term care (LTC) systems to ensure that seniors and individuals with physical and developmental disabilities have access to community-based services.
- The MFP Demonstration was created by the federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 and extended through 2016 by the Affordable Care Act.
- The Demonstration provides an enhanced Federal Medicaid funding match for 365 days of community-based services provided to persons who transition to community-based care after having been in an institutional setting for more than 90 consecutive days.
- New York State (NYS) continues to promote community-based, long-term care by shifting the focus from institutional-based care to person-centered home- and community-based care.
- The MFP Demonstration is a state-level initiative to support rebalancing long-term care in this way. OPWDD is just one participant in New York's MFP Demonstration.
- OPWDD's participation in MFP is one part of OPWDD's larger system transformation and ICF transition plan. Only some of the individuals who leave ICFs will move to MFP-qualifying settings.

Partnership with DOH and Providers

- The NYS Department of Health (DOH) is the lead agency on the NYS MFP Demonstration. DOH has participated in MFP for about 5 years.
- OPWDD officially began participating in MFP on April 1, 2013.
- MFP requires extensive monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, and annual reporting to CMS.
- DOH does the reporting to CMS; OPWDD reports its data to DOH.
- Voluntary providers will be important partners in gathering the needed data. OPWDD is developing guidance on these processes and will look for provider ideas and input.
- OPWDD and DOH are working closely to develop regional Transition Centers that will assist individuals from any kind of institutional setting, including individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities living in Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) and Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs) prepare for their move, and also to contract for coordinated peer outreach in all types of facilities.

Reporting MFP Participation and Quality of Life Improvements

To receive the appropriate federal funding match, OPWDD must track MFP participants' eligibility, participation dates and experience in the community. No more than 30 days prior to the individual's move, a CMS-required Quality of Life survey must be administered to the individual planning to move. Follow-up surveys are completed at 11 months and 24-months after an individual has transitioned to the community. Administration of the baseline surveys will be performed by the ICF provider. Once the statewide Transition Centers are operating, the Transition Centers will conduct all required baseline and follow-up QoL surveys.

Qualifying Information:

Eligibility for MFP Participation - The individual moving must:

- Have resided in a qualified institution (hospital, nursing home, or ICF/IID) for not less than 90 consecutive days minus Medicare covered rehabilitative days immediately prior to transition;
- Be in receipt of Medicaid for at least one day prior to transition from the institutional setting;
- Be enrolled in the OPWDD HCBS waiver;
- Continue to meet ICF/IID (formerly ICF/MR) level of care requirement; and
- Transition into a qualified residence.

Definition of a Qualified Residence – Defined by Section 6071(b)(6) of the Deficit Reduction Act:

- Home owned or leased by the individual or his/her family member; or
- An apartment with an individual lease, with lockable access and egress, which includes living, sleeping, bathing, and cooking areas over which the individual or the individual's family has domain and control; or
- A community-based residence in which no more than four unrelated individuals reside.

Tracking Process:

- Please notify your regional MFP Lead via email (see link below) that a qualifying individual who receives services from your agency is planning to move to a MFP-qualifying setting. Please include:
 - Individual's name
 - Anticipated move-out date
 - Facility contact name and contact information (phone and email address) for survey scheduling purposes
- Arrange to obtain the signature of the individual or his/her family member/guardian on the MFP Informed Consent form and to conduct the Baseline QoL survey.

- The MFP Informed Consent form, QoL survey, and guidance for completing the survey can be found at <http://www.opwdd.ny.gov/transformation-agreement/mfp/overview>.

MFP Achievements and Goals

Over the Next Four years:

- 875 individuals will move to qualifying MFP settings.
- 3,300 residents of ICFs will be contacted about the possibility of moving into the community.

In 2013:

- OPWDD helped 94 people to leave ICFs and Developmental Centers (DCs) and move into MFP qualifying settings in the community.
- SANYS representatives visited and spoke with 717 residents of ICFs and DCs about the possibility of moving into their communities.

For 2014:

- OPWDD will inform 800 residents of ICFs of their opportunities to leave the ICFs.
- OPWDD will assist 215 people to move from ICF/IIDs or DCs into community settings that qualify for MFP.

Intersection with OPWDD's On-going De-institutionalization

- OPWDD's MFP participation occurs during an ongoing OPWDD initiative of de-institutionalization.
- The annual MFP goals are a part of OPWDD's overall de-institutionalization plans. Not every individual who leaves an ICF must move into an MFP-qualifying residence.
- OPWDD has transformation goals related to de-institutionalization progress and MFP progress.
- OPWDD will establish annual de-institutionalization goals for each region, including MFP goals.

Education, Outreach and Referral

- OPWDD is continuing to work with the Self Advocacy Association of New York State (SANYS) to accomplish peer-based outreach in SNFs and ICFs.
- Providers are requested to notify an individual's advocates, guardians and family members of the dates and times of SANYS outreach visits, using language provided by OPWDD and copying Beth Haroules (bharoules@nyclu.org) of the NY Civil Liberties Union and Antonia Ferguson of

the Consumer Advisory Board (OPWDD.CAB@opwdd.ny.gov) when Willowbrook Class Members are residing in the ICF.

- OPWDD and DOH will also be developing joint outreach materials for de-institutionalization, ensuring that the materials prepared provide useful information to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.
- OPWDD will use its website to provide MFP guidance and resources for providers.
- Individuals who express an interest in moving to a more integrated community setting will generate an “MFP referral.”
- Providers will be asked to meet with individuals who express interest in moving to a more integrated community setting to discuss person-centered planning and determine the next steps toward an appropriate community placement.
- Providers should obtain signed MFP Informed Consent forms when they meet with individuals who desire to move to a more integrated community setting. Signed Informed Consent forms should be emailed to community.transitions@opwdd.ny.gov.
- OPWDD will be tracking the outcomes of all MFP referrals and confirming that follow-up conversations occur.

For More Information, Contact:

Community.Transitions@opwdd.ny.gov

List of Regional MFP Leads:

<http://www.opwdd.ny.gov/transformation-agreement/mfp/regional-leads>