

Adult Services Division – Money Follows the Person Grant

Program Overview

In 2011 DAIL was awarded a five year \$17.9 million “Money Follows the Person” (MFP) demonstration grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The grant was continued through September 2019 with an additional \$8 million. The goal of the MFP grant, working with the Choices for Care Program, is to help people living in nursing facilities to overcome barriers that have prevented them from moving to their preferred community-based setting. The program provides participants the assistance of a Transition Coordinator and up to \$2,500 to address barriers to transition while providing enhanced federal Medicaid match to help rebalance Vermont’s long-term service and support systems.

Staff and Partners

MFP works hand in hand with the Choices for Care program and its partners. The Adult Services Division is responsible for the day to day management of the grant and coordinates its activities.

MFP positions are 100% funded by the federal grant. They include:

- 1 Project Director
- .5 Administrative Assistant
- 1 Data Analyst
- 1 Quality and Program Specialist
- 1 Quality and Program Specialist/Transition Coordinator
- 2 RN Transition Coordinators

Partners include:

- Area Agencies on Aging
- Adult Day Providers
- Adult Family Care Authorized Agencies
- Home Health Agencies
- Hospitals
- Nursing Facilities
- VT Center for Independent Living

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Recent Developments and Accomplishments

Over the last six years, the MFP program has assisted 334 participants successfully transition from a nursing facility to a community setting. The State of Vermont realized a cost avoidance of \$2,243,598 in state share of Medicaid costs from a total of \$10,081,322 in home and community-based services that these participants received through the quarter ending June 2017. Vermont also received \$3,740,095 to cover the administrative costs of the grant (7.5 FFE positions, expenses and ADRC grant funding). Currently, \$4,482,959 in federal funds are still available to support the remaining service costs for transitions in calendar year 2017 and the administrative costs of closing the grant over the next two years.

Future Directions

Beginning January 2018, the MFP program will no longer enroll new MFP participants, the first step of the grant phase-down process. The MFP program has identified several key areas of improvement necessary to sustain successful living in the community for Choices for Care participants. These improvement opportunities include:

- Discharge planning from the nursing facility
- Affordable/assessible housing
- Caregiver capacity/supports

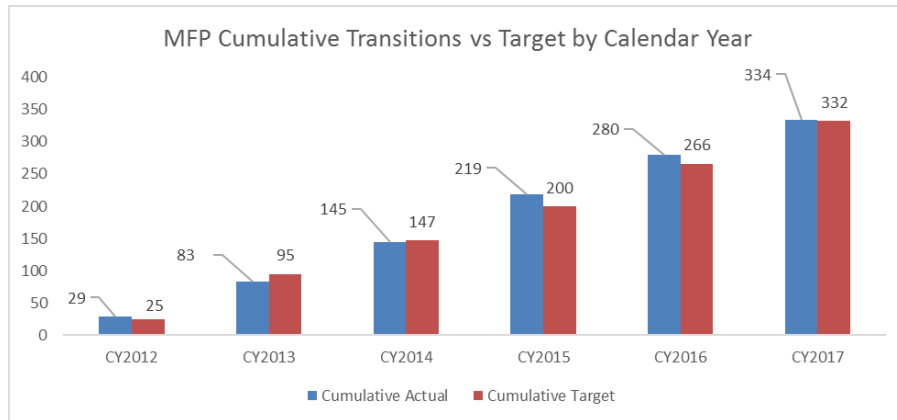
[Vermont's MFP sustainability plan](#) outlines a course of action that will use the lessons learned from this demonstration grant to optimize the overall nursing facility transition processes and supports within the CFC program.

Results

The MFP program focuses on two key benchmarks of performance:

1. Total number of cumulative transitions each calendar year, with targets:
 - CY 2016: 280 cumulative transitions, 5% above the target of 266
 - CY 2017 (as of 9/1/17): Project 334 cumulative transitions, 1% above the target of 332

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2. Reduce the percent of MFP participants that are de-enrolled from the program due to long-term readmission to a Nursing Facility.

- CY2016: 1% reduction in readmissions from CY2015
- CY2017 (as of 9/1/17): 2% reduction in readmissions from CY2016.

