

## Adult Services Division – Choices for Care

### Program Overview

Choices for Care (CFC) is a program covered under [Vermont's Global Commitment to Health 1115 Waiver](#). The CFC “High/Highest” option offers long-term services and supports to adult Vermonters who need nursing home level of care services. If a person is found clinically and financially eligible, they may choose where they want to receive their services whether it is in their own home, the home of another person, in a licensed residential care home, assisted living residence, or nursing facility. Limited funding is also available for people who do not need nursing home level of care but do need some preventive “Moderate Needs” services including homemaker and adult day services.

### Staff and Partners

The Long-Term Services and Supports Unit manages Choices for Care and includes 20 staff, 15 whom are regionally located to manage applications and clinical eligibility for people in their regions.

Many partners provide direct services under CFC, including:

- Adult Day Providers
- Adult Family Care Authorized Agencies
- Area Agencies on Aging
- ARIS Solutions (employer payroll services)
- Home Health Agencies
- Licensed Residential Care and Assisted Living Residences
- Licensed Nursing Facilities
- Providers of Personal Emergency Response Services
- Traumatic Brain Injury Providers

### Recent Developments and Accomplishments

In SFY18:

- We implemented a 2% Medicaid rate increase in home-based, Adult Family Care and Enhanced Residential Care (ERC) services July 1, 2018.
- We launched the first [National Core Indicators \(NCI\) for Aging & Disabilities](#) consumer experience survey. (Data will be available January 2019.)
- We received a [Scan Foundation Award](#) for Access and Affordability.
- We participated in a year-long state audit of the self-directed personal care services.
- The legislature codified the Choices for Care savings and allocation language in [Title 33, Chapter 76](#).

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### Future Directions

The Choices for Care (CFC) staff seek ways to improve consumer experience, how services are delivered and paid for, and to integrate with broader healthcare reform efforts in Vermont. Work in SFY2019 is expected to include:

- Assuring that all home-based settings meet requirements under the federal Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) rules.
- Analyzing the first NCI-AD consumer survey data set and identifying, with stakeholder input, opportunities for program improvement.
- Implementing improved Adult Family Care (AFC) quality management activities.
- Continuing to engage with the Accountable Care Organization to improve integration of long-term services and supports (LTSS) with broader healthcare reform efforts.
- Exploring opportunities for a Moderate Needs payment and delivery reform pilot with the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) and the Northeastern VT Regional Hospital community team.
- Updating the Choices for Care regulations within the DVHA Medicaid Health Care Administrative Rules framework.
- Improving payroll and claims processing procedures for self-directed participants as recommended by the [Vermont State Auditor](#).
- Implementing Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) for home-based services, as required by the federal CURES Act.

### Results

As of June 2018 (SAMS Enrollment Data)	SFY18	% Change from SFY17
Total Enrollments (high/highest/moderate)	5306	-2%
Home-Based High/Highest Only	1783	4%
Enhanced Residential Care (ERC) High/Highest Only	501	2%
Nursing Facility High/Highest Only	1860	-2%
<u>Total High/Highest Only</u>	4144	1%
<u>High/Highest</u> : Home-based & ERC % total enrollments	55%	1%
<u>High/Highest</u> : NF% total enrollments	45%	-1%
% CFC High/Highest Clinical Eligibility Completed in <30 days	96%	3%
<u>Total Moderate Needs Group Only</u>	1275	-5%
MNG Wait List end of fiscal year	880	6%

## Adult Services Division – Choices for Care

New CFC quality and consumer experience data will be available from the NCI-AD survey, expected to be available in January 2019.

### More Information

More information about Choices for Care can be found online using the following links:

- Legislative Report – [Adequacy of the Choices for Care Provider System September 2017](#)
- Legislative Report – [Choices for Care Savings September 2018](#)
- Legislative Reports - Choices for Care Quarterly Financial Monitoring
  - [October 2017](#)
  - [January 2018](#)
  - [April 2018](#)
  - [November 2018](#)
- [CMS Quarterly and Annual Reports](#)
- [Information At-A-Glance Resources](#)
- [Program Manuals](#)