

Ohio's Proposal Summary

Ohio proposes to utilize the CMS grant for Money Follows the Person to take the *Ohio Access Plan* to the next level – both as a resource to further expand existing HCBS options for elders and people with disabilities and as a way to overcome barriers – to truly “rebalance” Ohio’s long-term care delivery system. MFP will add “fuel” and a coordinating function to Ohio’s existing home and community-based services (HCBS).

In addition, because MFP will be targeted to only people leaving institutional settings, Ohio’s MFP will create a distinct set of “post-institutional” services that will smooth the way for people who are moving back home from an institution. These services will be time limited as people adjust to living in their own homes and have individualized service packages established either through an existing HCBS waiver or Ohio Medicaid’s “core” (state plan) Medicaid benefit plus other services and supports that are not funded via Medicaid.

Key Proposal Elements

- Address the needs of multiple populations in a phased-in approach over the demonstration period. By the end of the demonstration, Ohio estimates a total of 2,231 people will be relocated from an institutional setting to an HCBS.
- Utilize existing and planned HCBS options, i.e., existing Medicaid waiver programs, Medicaid waiver initiatives already underway, and existing state plan Medicaid benefits. In addition, enhance the home and community-based services offered through the use of time-limited demonstration services (see next bullet point).
- Identify and incorporate appropriate services, including Qualified HCB Services (e.g., waiver services and existing state plan services), HCB Demonstration Services (e.g., independent living skills, peer support, benefits coordination, housing locator service, respite, day habilitation, supported employment, social work and counseling, nutrition, nursing), and Supplemental Demonstration Services (e.g., service animal, home computer). Promote consumer direction of services.
- Incorporate the use of a Central Referral and Tracking System to track MFP participation and data about MFP participants.
- Utilize an MFP Planning and Advisory Group to plan and advise the implementation of Ohio’s MFP demonstration. The Planning and Advisory Group will consist of representatives from state agencies, consumers/families, advocates, and provider organizations.
- Utilize subcommittees, designated by the MFP Planning and Advisory Group, to identify issues, develop recommendations, and design processes/protocols for the implementation of Ohio’s MFP demonstration. Subcommittees will focus on housing, workforce development, services and self-direction, marketing and recruitment, rebalancing, and operational processes and will include stakeholders identified for each issue area.
- Incorporate quality management into all aspects of the operational protocol and demonstration.