

## Money Follows the Person

The Money Follows the Person (MFP) Project began as a five-year grant award to shift Medicaid Long-Term Care (LTC) from its emphasis on institutional care to Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS). In 2005, prior to receiving the MFP grant, Georgia's long-term care expenditures were \$1.5 billion, with 70 percent expended on institutional long-term care and 30 percent expended on HCBS. The goal of Georgia's MFP Project is to increase the percentage for HCBS to more than 50 percent. By the second quarter of SFY 2019, Georgia surpassed this goal by reaching 51.8 percent.

Through MFP, Georgia has achieved growth in annual spending on HCBS. The MFP grant opportunity was made available as part of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 and reauthorized under the Affordable Care Act of 2010.



### Georgia's MFP Project

MFP is a joint initiative between the Georgia Department of Community Health, the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and the Georgia Department of Human Services Division of Aging Services. The project's goal is to transition Georgians residing in institutional settings to the community primarily through use of Georgia's Medicaid waiver programs – the Elderly and Disabled Waiver Program, the Independent Care Waiver Program, the New Options Waiver, and the Comprehensive Support Waiver.

Eligible participants include those who have been in-patients in a long-term care facility for at least 60 consecutive days and whose care has been covered by Medicaid preceding their transition to HCBS. Participants must also meet the institutional level of care. Participants must continue to meet institutional levels of care criteria after transitioning to the community. Target populations include older adults, adults and children with physical disabilities and/or traumatic brain injury.

MFP includes a variety of transition services that enable participants to move into communities of their choice. Participants work with field personnel to review MFP transition services and options for long-term services and support. Field personnel assist participants in creating a transition plan, arranging for services for discharge and making the move to the community. After transitioning to the community, participants meet monthly with field personnel during the 365 MFP period of participation (usually 365 days).

Through MFP, the state has established a seamless information and referral process with the collaboration of various contracted agencies and field personnel to coordinate transitions.

### For More Information

DHS Aging and Disability Resources Connection: 866-55-AGING (866-552-4464).

The Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman: 888-454-5826.

DCH Money Follows the Person Project: 404-651-9961 or email [gamfp@dch.ga.gov](mailto:gamfp@dch.ga.gov).