

Money Follows the Person Transitions Individuals from Nursing Homes to the Community

SENIOR WITH A PHYSICAL DISABILITY

MFP helps a senior in a wheelchair transition home after 3 years in a nursing home.



"I feel better each day that I am home."
— Gail, Wauseon, Ohio

Gail is a 78 year old man who lived in a nursing home for three years following a stroke. He went through his life savings in the nursing home and eventually qualified for Medicaid. Gail received good care in the nursing home but his desire was to move back home. He found out about Money Follows the Person through his ex-wife, Sue, and a social worker at the nursing home. In June 2009, Gail moved out of the nursing home and into Sue's house. Sue is his primary caretaker and helps with Gail's daily insulin shots and prescription drugs he takes for a heart condition. MFP provided him with a \$1,500 stipend for home services, ramps and handicap accessible bathroom modifications to enable Gail to move home. He also receives 16 hours of personal care services each month and attends adult day care each day.

Gail credits his Medicaid case manager and Sue for helping make his transition home a smooth one. Since moving home, Gail's health has remained steady. Last summer Sue and Gail took their camper to an Ohio campground for several weeks. Gail looks forward to these trips and hopes to continue traveling in the future. Thanks to a program like MFP, Gail can get the care he needs at home while surrounded by friends and family.

ADULT WITH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

MFP transition coordinators help an adult with multiple chronic conditions secure her apartment.



"I'm highly satisfied with Medicaid and HOME Choice; they are there if I need anything."
— Karen, Toledo, Ohio

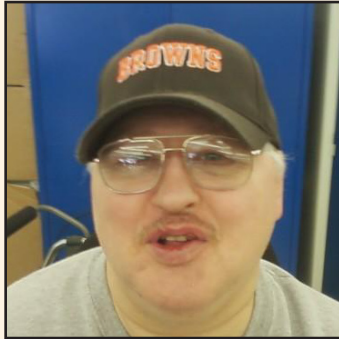
Karen is a 42 year old woman who suffers with multiple chronic conditions including diabetes, stroke, a thyroid condition, and depression. Karen has been dually eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid since 1994. Karen lived in a nursing home for seven years because she could no longer perform basic activities with her hands such as lifting pots and pans. Once accepted to MFP, Karen's transition process took about six months. During that time she attended occupational therapy to help her transition to living alone. The biggest delay in her transition was due to housing. It took her two months to locate housing after applying for a Section 8 housing voucher. A transition coordinator helped her locate an apartment, set up bills, and furnish the apartment with the \$2,000 in community transition service money.

Living on her own since August 2010, Karen finds the privacy and the quiet to be the best parts of being home. She hopes to get more involved in community activities but managing her chronic conditions is a daily battle. Karen takes a wide range of prescription drugs and relies on a walker, a wheel-chair, and a personal care aide who comes each day for four hours and a nurse who comes once a week. Karen receives counseling services, case management and uses medical transportation for doctor appointments. Karen appreciates all the help available to her through the MFP program.

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ADULT WITH A DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY

MFP helps an adult with Cerebral Palsy gain independence.



**“Everything is better (now that I am home).”
— Lee, Coshocton, Ohio**

Lee is a 58 year old man born with cerebral palsy. He has both Medicaid and Medicare coverage due to his disability. Lee uses a wheelchair and needs around the clock assistance. He spent eight years of his life living in a nursing home sharing a room with someone else. About a year ago, Lee transitioned to his own apartment with the help of MFP. A transition coordinator helped him locate this apartment and square away his utilities and his case manager set him up with 24 hour personal care services. He receives counseling, transportation services, assistance with doctor appointments and medications, and help contacting family. He also gets help with shopping, housekeeping, laundry, cooking and paying his bills. He relies on adaptive equipment at home including a hooyer lift, bipap, lift chair, hospital bed, handicap toilet, and shower chair.

Lee goes to work each day at a local vocational rehabilitation services center. He also attends the Alternatives Day Habilitation Program where he gets to do art work. On the weekends, he enjoys watching television, playing cards and counting coins. The best part about being home is having his own bedroom and the privacy. Lee looks forward to spending time with his family.

CHILD WITH MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

MFP enables a child to transfer from a residential treatment facility to a foster home.

**“Jasmine likes having the sense of family and normalcy in her life.” — Jasmine’s legal guardian
Canton, Ohio**

Jasmine is a 13 year old middle school student who has been living in and out of residential treatment facilities (RTFs) and under the guardianship of county children services for the last five years. She has had Medicaid her whole life. Jasmine’s parents are unable to care for her although she does have some supervised contact with her mother. Jasmine has been diagnosed with serious psychological problems and was a victim of abuse. She struggles with maintaining relationships and needs constant supervision. In the RTF, Jasmine had her own room but shared common space with 7-9 other girls. Believing that Jasmine would benefit from living with a family, Jasmine’s case manager helped her apply for MFP. Six months ago, Jasmine moved out of the group home and in with a foster family. Her transition took approximately nine months on account of her behavior issues and difficulty locating a family that could care for her special needs. Jasmine still receives weekly counseling and has regular contact with a psychiatrist.

Overall Jasmine’s transition went smoothly thanks to help from her social worker and therapists. She likes living with a family and the freedom to play in the backyard. She is working on building relationships and is doing well in school. She plays the clarinet in her school band. Her hopes for the future are to be in one consistent place and maybe one day be adopted.

This publication (#8141) is available on the Kaiser Family Foundation’s website at www.kff.org.

The Money Follows the Person (MFP) demonstration program is a Medicaid initiative designed to shift Medicaid long-term care spending from institutional care to home- and community based services. MFP was authorized in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 and then extended in the Affordable Care Act. MFP provides 365 days of enhanced federal funding to states to transition Medicaid individuals living in institutions back into the community. Currently 30 states have operational MFP programs. For more information on MFP see: Money Follows the Person 2010: A Snapshot (Pub # 8142).