

Massachusetts MFP Demonstration – Project Abstract and Profile

Massachusetts is seeking to expand its existing commitment to supporting community living for people with disabilities across the lifespan through participation in the Money Follows the Person Rebalancing Demonstration. The commonwealth is requesting a total of \$158,842,856 with which the commonwealth intends to transition at least 2,192 individuals from institutional settings to community life.

This proposal builds upon an already substantial commitment to home and community based service development that Massachusetts has spearheaded through its extensive state plan optional long term care services and its innovative use of waiver related authority in the provision of community care to elders and certain younger disabled individuals. MFP participation will permit the commonwealth to improve implementation of the state's Community First *Olmstead* Plan and support the further re-balancing of the state's community vs. institutional long term care expenditure ratio. The grant will provide a platform for the development of more robust patient identification, options counseling, transition support, and community-based long term support services system. The grant activities will further strengthen the evolving Aging and Disability Resource Consortia, integrate with emergent ACA-related primary care medical home initiatives, care transition strategies, and integrated financing efforts, including those focused on dually eligible individuals, and will assure ongoing stakeholder monitoring and input through the state's Standing *Olmstead* Advisory Committee.

The proposal addresses persistent gaps in long term supports for elders and people with disabilities by further developing a statewide institutional transition and community support network in collaboration with the Aging Service Access Points, the Independent Living Centers, and other members of the state's 11 ADRCs. The demonstration proposal is functionally oriented, explicitly cross-disability, and anchored in existing behavioral health, independent living, and other long term services support structures that it seeks to transform through the grant period by targeted investments and changed policy and management strategies. Innovations include expanded client identification and transition counseling support, targeted new transition services, transition-linked housing supports, and waiver-based community service expansions. System policy and management innovations include expedited eligibility and prior authorization determination, regional transition networks, and coordinated state housing development planning.

The commonwealth will use the MFP opportunity to provide comprehensive transition services and support to MFP-qualified individuals seeking to move from a facility to the community; implement two new 1915(c) home and community-based service waivers for individuals not currently eligible for one of the commonwealth's existing waivers; develop improved data collection and quality capacity; and promote housing development and access.