COMMUNITY HEALTH CHOICES UPDATE
What You Need to Know about the Statewide Transition Plan

As a participant and valuable client of United Disabilities Services, we are reaching out to you to inform you of some changes being made by the State of Pennsylvania to the Waiver Programs. As these changes evolve, we will take the time to educate you on them and give you insight into how you can get involved.

This edition is the first in a series of messages that we will send to you in an effort to keep you informed on these changes. In this edition, our goal is to help explain what is happening and who is impacted. We will also be providing you with information on public meetings that you may attend to learn more about the changes including your opportunity to provide comments or ask questions.

We encourage you to send us your email address so that we can send you these updates electronically. Please send your name and email address to: ADVOCATE@udservices.org

First, let me help you understand the change.

- These changes will affect individuals with functional limitations and chronic illness who need assistance to perform routine daily activities such as bathing, dressing, preparing meals, etc. These services are referred to as Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS)
- The State plans to coordinate health coverage as well as LTSS through a plan that combines these two services.
- This plan will be called Community Health Choices (CHC).
- Insurance companies called Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) will be established to provide these services to participants. The State is currently accepting proposals from several MCOs who wish to provide these services in Pennsylvania.
- Participants will have a choice of providers. It is anticipated that participants will have between 2 – 5 MCO providers to choose from.
- Participants who have Medicaid and Medicare coverage (dual eligible participants) will have the option to have their Medicaid and Medicare services coordinated by the same MCO.
- Participants in the ACT 150 program will not be affected by Managed Care. Participants less than 21 years of age are expected to be transferred to the OBRA waiver.

Community Health Choices is anticipated to cover an estimated 450,000 individuals, including 130,000 older persons and adults with physical disabilities who are currently receiving LTSS in the community and in nursing facilities. The MCOs will be responsible for providing most Medicaid-covered services, including preventive services, primary and acute care, LTSS (Home and Community Based Services and nursing facilities), prescription drugs, and dental services.
1. When does Managed Care go into effect?
   The transition is expected to happen in 3 phases beginning in 2017 and ending in 2019. As we understand it today, the state has been divided into three separate implementation phases and CHC will be rolled out to these phases at different times as follows:
   - Phase 1 - Southwest Region (green) - will transition to Community Health Choices on or around January 1, 2017
   - Phase 2 - Southeast Region (yellow) - will transition on or around January 1, 2018
   - Phase 3 - The remainder of the state (pink) - will transition in the final phase which is anticipated on or around January 1, 2019

2. How can I learn more about the public meetings and have my voice heard?
   The State is conducting public meetings to discuss and hear public comments regarding these changes. You can attend any of these meetings as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April 6, 2016</th>
<th>May 4, 2016</th>
<th>June 1, 2016 July 6, 2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am – 1:00 pm</td>
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3. Will I be able to stay with my current Supports Coordination entity?
   UDS is meeting with MCOs to develop contracts and a working relationship with them. We will continue to educate you on this process through future editions of the ADVOCATE newsletter.

4. What happens to my services if I go into a nursing facility temporarily?
   The MCOs will be required to implement care whenever participants are admitted to or discharged from hospitals, nursing facilities or residential settings.

5. How do I get more information on this change?
   You can visit the Department of Human Service’s website at: www.health.pa.gov

   Additionally, UDS also plans to provide updates through newsletters like this one. For faster and more efficient communication we would appreciate your email address so we can provide this newsletter to you electronically. We will not sell this email address and will only use it for purposes of education. Please send your email address to us at: ADVOCATE@udservices.org