

Money Follows the Person (MFP)

What is Money Follows the Person?

The **Money Follows the Person (MFP)** Rebalancing Demonstration Grants are designed to give people needing Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) more choice about where they live and receive care, and to increase the capacity of state LTSS systems to serve people in community settings. This program:

- increases the use of home and community-based services;
- eliminates barriers to enable Medicaid-eligible individuals to receive support for appropriate and necessary long-term services in the settings of their choice;
- increases the ability of Medicaid programs to assure continued provision of home and community-based long-term care services to eligible individuals who choose to transition from an institutional to a community setting of their choice.

What is the Impact of Money Follows the Person?

MFP has allowed 75,151 people with chronic conditions and disabilities to transition from institutions back into the community through MFP programs as of December 2016. There are currently 43 states and the District of Columbia participating in the demonstration.

- According to independent evaluations by Mathematica:
 - Participants report significant and lasting improvements in quality of life and community integration after returning to the community.
 - Findings suggest that after individuals return to the community, their overall Medicare and Medicaid expenditures decreased by roughly 20%.

Why is MFP an issue now?

Sustaining Excellence in Medicaid Act of 2019 ([HR 3253](#)) passed Congress in July 2019. This bill adds \$122.5 million for the MFP Rebalancing Demonstration. The current short-term extension expires in December 2019. Advocates are currently pushing for a long-term extension of the MFP program.

What active legislation addresses this?

Bipartisan legislation – the EMPOWER Care Act – has been introduced to reauthorize the Money Follows the Person Demonstration Program (House [H. R.1342](#); Senate [S.548](#)). This would reauthorize the program for five years.

This document was prepared by the Association of University Centers on Disabilities. For more information, visit www.aucd.org, or contact Policy Director Rylin Rodgers at rrodgers@aucd.org.