

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS

Access Center for Independent Living
Achievement Centers for Children
Advocacy and Protective Services (APSI)
AARP
American Association of Service
Coordinators
Amerigroup
Assistive Technology of Ohio (AT Ohio)
Autism Society of Ohio
Bittersweet Inc.
Brain Injury Association of Ohio
Brethren Care Village
Buckeye Community Health Plan
Cerebral Palsy Association of Ohio
Coalition on Homelessness and Housing
in Ohio
Creative Housing Corporation
Definitive Home Health Care
Delaware Creative Housing
Easter Seals of Ohio
Episcopal Retirement Homes, Inc.
Family Services Council of Ohio
Good Samaritan Hospital
Greater Dayton TRA
Heritage Day Health Centers
Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
Heritage Health Care Services
Housing Leadership Institute
Legislative Services Commission
Linking Employment, Abilities and
Potential (LEAP)
Long Term Care (LTC) Ombudsman
Program
Mercy Saint John's Center
Miami Valley In-Ovations, Inc.
National Alliance on Mental Illness
of Ohio
National Church Residences
Ohio Academy of Nursing Homes
Ohio Advocates
Ohio Alliance for Direct Support
Professionals
Ohio Assisted Living Association
Ohio Association Adult Caregivers
Ohio Association of County Behavioral
Health Authorities
Ohio Association of County Boards of DD
Ohio Association of Superintendents of
County Boards of DD
Ohio Board of Regents
Ohio Association on Area Agencies
on Aging
Ohio Capitol Corporation for Housing
Ohio Centers for Independent Living
- CILS
Ohio Conference of Community
Development Organizations
Ohio Council for Home Care
Ohio Department of Aging
Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug
Addiction Services
Ohio Department of Development
Ohio Department of Mental Health
Ohio Department of Developmental
Disabilities
Ohio Department of Transportation
Ohio Dietetic Association
Ohio Health Care Association
Ohio Hospice & Palliative Care
Organization
Ohio Hospital Association
Ohio Housing Authority Conference
Ohio Housing Authority Finance
Ohio Jewish Communities
Ohio Job and Family Services Directors
Association
Ohio Legal Rights Services
Ohio Office of Budget and Management
Ohio Olmstead Task Force
Ohio PATHS
Ohio Provider Resource Association
Ohio State University-Public Policy,
Assistive Technology
Ohio United Way
Rehabilitation Service Commission
RHC, Inc.
Sarah Care Adult Day Services
Service Employees International Union
- SEIU 1199
The Ability Center
The Advocate of Not-For-Profit Services
for Ohioans (AOPHA)
The Success Group
Wright State University - School of
Medicine

And, all consumers and families who
have participated

HOME Choice Presented as Model MFP Program

Ohio's new Medicaid Director, John McCarthy, attended a Kaiser Family Foundation's Briefing on February 7 and presented a perspective on Medicaid's Home and Community-Based Services Programs, specifically Ohio's Money Follows the Person demonstration, HOME Choice. The Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured (KCMU) presented HOME Choice as a **model MFP program**.

The Kaiser Briefing on Opportunities for Long-Term Care Services and Supports in the Health Reform Law included remarks from U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. The briefing, along with new resources created by the KCMU, examined the latest data findings regarding Medicaid's long-term services and supports for seniors and people with disabilities.

Ohio's HOME Choice program was the subject of two of the reports released: ***Case Study: Ohio's Money Follows the Person Demonstration (HOME Choice)*** provides an overview of the program and ***Money Follows the Person Transitions Individuals*** from Nursing Homes to the Community offers profiles of four Ohio residents who have benefitted from the program. The reports can be found at <http://www.kff.org/medicaid/medicaid-long-term-services-briefing-resources.cfm>.

We encourage all who are interested in the Money Follows the Person demonstration to read the two reports on Ohio as well as the ***Money Follows the Person: A 2010 Snapshot***, which can be found at the preceding link. It offers details from all the MFP states about key findings:

- As of July 2010, nearly 9,000 individuals had been transitioned back to the community and another 4,000 transitions were currently in process.
- States identified a wide range of pre-transition services to target potential MFP participants and to successfully transfer individuals back to the community.
- The average monthly cost of transitioning a MFP participant to the community is roughly \$5,600 per person.
- Obstacles to transition include lack of affordable, accessible housing and inadequate community workforce supply.
- More than half (18) of the MFP states reported that the new reduced institutional residency requirement in the ACA will increase MFP transitions.
- Looking ahead, the lack of affordable, accessible housing will remain the toughest challenge for MFP states.

Ohio's success with housing is one reason it has been identified as an MFP model state. Please see HOME Choice Recipients to Benefit from Ohio Housing Awards on page 2.



Medicaid Director
John McCarthy

Introducing New Medicaid Director John McCarthy

John McCarthy joined the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services' Office of Ohio Health Plans as the Medicaid Director in January 2011. Previously, he was the deputy director for the District of Columbia's Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF). In that role, he served as the Medicaid Director. Prior to joining DHCF, Mr. McCarthy was a partner with EP & P Consulting, a Medicaid consulting firm, for 10 years. While at EP & P, he helped states reform their Medicaid programs, develop waiver programs, create new coverage initiatives, develop and set rates for home- and community-based waivers, develop needs assessment tools, and set hospital rates. Mr. McCarthy was also a budget analyst in the Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting for the State of Arizona.

HOME Choice Project Manager Presents at National Conference

HOME Choice Project Manager Erika Robbins presented as part of a panel on "**Findings from the Initial Years of the MFP Program**" at the 2011 **National Grantee Meeting** held February 14 - 17 in Baltimore. The conference, sponsored by the Administration on Aging, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, focused on coordinating and fostering state and local collaborative efforts to promote community living for older adults and persons with disabilities.

HOME Choice Recipients to Benefit from Ohio Housing Awards

Two Ohio public housing authorities received rental vouchers from a federal partnership between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The rental vouchers will assist individuals who are enrolled in HOME Choice to live independently in the community after living in facilities and institutions.

Ohio received the second-highest number of vouchers of 15 states receiving them: 160 out of 948. Receiving the vouchers were the **Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority** and the **Lucas (County) Metropolitan Housing Authority**.

The awards are a result of a nationally recognized partnership between the HOME Choice program and Ohio's public housing authorities. In August 2010, HUD singled out HOME Choice and the **Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority** for their efforts to help those in long-term care facilities to move back into their communities. HOME Choice has continued to work with Ohio's public housing authorities, encouraging and supporting them in successful efforts to obtain vouchers, which can be used to assist individuals enrolled in HOME Choice seeking housing.

Update on Ohio's Implementation of MDS 3.0 Section Q (Referral to Community Living)

Minimum Data Set (MDS) 3.0 includes an expanded "**Section Q**," which is designed to collect information regarding a person's interest in transitioning to a community setting. ODJFS received approval from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to implement MDS 3.0 Section Q with a cross-disability approach for information and referral that matches the approach used for HOME Choice transition coordination. ODJFS serves as a clearinghouse for Section Q information, making referrals to local entities for follow-up and a possible referral for transition coordination within the HOME Choice transition program.

As of March 1, 2011, all PASSPORT Administrative Agencies (PAAs) are on board as providers of **Community Living Specialist Services** (Ohio's new information and referral service) to Ohioans over age 60. PAAs are providing support as ODJFS develops the operations for the new information and referral service. ODJFS appreciates the PAAs' commitment in developing an efficient and effective process that helps Ohioans return home.

Starting in March 2011, ODJFS will send Section Q referrals of residents who are age 60 and under to Ohio Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and other provider agencies with signed provider agreements. ODJFS hopes that additional CILs, mental health agencies and peer centers will become Community Living Specialist Services providers. If you are interested, please contact Terry Moore at terry.moore@jfs.ohio.gov or call 1-888-221-1560.

HOME Choice Success Stories

This issue features two success stories about teenagers who have transitioned from living in facilities to community settings. The teenagers' stories were written by CareStar case managers. CareStar is the case management agency for the Ohio Home Care program. Only the teens' first names have been used to protect their privacy.

Robert Jones, HOME Choice manager for CareStar, says, "I am proud of the successes the waiver and non-waiver individuals have achieved. CareStar case managers work diligently to provide quality care management services to the consumers they serve."

Megan

By Penny Sellers, CareStar HOME Choice Specialist

One of my favorite success stories involves a teenage girl, Megan. I became Megan's HOME Choice non-waiver case manager in March 2010. She was at the Avondale Youth Center (AYC), and at that time there was no discharge date for her.

AYC worked with Megan daily to develop and increase her skills and knowledge to help her live a productive life at home. When I was assigned to Megan as her case manager, she was doing well, both at school and at AYC. She enjoyed participating on the school track team, and she visited her family twice a week. The plan for Megan was to eventually return home with her parents.

While Megan was in the AYC, I stayed in touch with her Home Choice transition coordinator, Dena, who worked at AYC. Dena kept me updated on Megan's progress. During our conversations, Dena reported that Megan started to have overnight visits with her family. Megan had also been approved to work in the summer youth program and had been given a job doing laundry at AYC.

Megan worked Monday through Thursday from 12:30 to 4:30, which allowed her to attend Life Skills Class in the mornings and be with her family on weekends. Dena stated, "Megan did a fantastic job with her time management, staying on task, and did not need constant supervision." Megan successfully completed the AYC program and returned home to her parents on July 27, 2010.

I met with Megan, her parents and her transition coordinator when she moved back home. I explained the HOME Choice program to them, and we all agreed that Megan would benefit from receiving the HOME Choice services of Community Support Coach, Independent Living Skills Trainer, and Goods and Services. Megan has been working with her Independent Living Skills Trainer and Community Support Coach every two weeks in her home or at AYC. They have covered money management, budgeting and developing mutual respect.

Megan's HOME Choice Goods and Services funds enabled the purchase of a bed, mattress set and dresser for her bedroom. Now she has new décor that fits the life of a teenager. Megan's parents said that Megan's attitude and behavior have greatly improved, and she is on the honor roll for the first time.

Life is good for Megan, and I am proud to report her success story!



Megan at home with her mother, Linda.

MacKensie

By Terri Shaffner, CareStar HOME Choice Specialist

This is MacKensie's success story. MacKensie was removed from her home several years ago due to abuse and neglect. She then moved into a group home. MacKensie stated that moving into the group home was difficult, especially the first year. Her favorite memories of the group home are of playing basketball, walking laps, doing puzzles and making her own dress.

I became MacKensie's case manager for the HOME Choice Program. Through a collaboration of the CareStar team, county children's services and the HOME Choice program MacKensie is now in a home with loving foster parents and is attending public school successfully.

MacKensie stated that her life is much better now that she is in her new foster home. She has been able to participate in individual counseling and visitations with her family through her county children's services agency. She is also receiving Independent Living Skills training from a HOME Choice provider. Despite its complications, MacKensie has adjusted and grown into a happy, successful 13-year-old.

She says she really likes her new foster home, her foster parents, and has been learning that she can do many things she did not used to try to do. MacKensie has become empowered and says she has more hope and self-confidence than she had in the past.

MacKensie plays the clarinet in the school band and loves to bike ride, fish and swim. She also enjoys video games, gymnastics, animals and likes to hula-hoop. MacKensie also likes to catch butterflies and bugs.

Now that MacKensie is in a stable, healthy environment, she dreams of her future, perhaps of becoming a physician. MacKensie has much energy and determination, which she can use to her advantage. Through the collaboration of the CareStar team, county children's services and the HOME Choice program, there is no doubt MacKensie will reach her full potential.



MacKensie and her former foster mother, Christine Naugle, with an animal friend.

News of Interest to Providers, Transition Coordinators, Case Managers and SSAs

"Cultivating a Workforce for Person Centered Long-Term Services and Supports"
Stakeholder Summit for Ohio's Long-Term Direct Service Workforce Initiative
April 8, 2011, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Northeast Conference Center
 4140 Executive Parkway
 Westerville, Ohio 43081-3855

Ohio's **Direct Service Workforce Project** was established in response to the efforts of multiple state agencies (the Ohio departments of Job and Family Services, Aging, Education, Health, Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, and the Board of Regents) to cultivate a highly trained and flexible direct-service workforce that is responsive to the needs of both employers and individuals receiving long-term services and supports.

The summit will allow stakeholders—including providers, employees, training programs, college and university health and human services faculty and students, state agency program and policy staff, and individual/family advocates—to provide input regarding the development of a unified health and human services strategy to improve the long-term direct service workforce in Ohio. The information obtained through this meeting will be used to further the development of a common career lattice, direct-care certification model.

The summit will feature **John McCarthy**, Medicaid Director, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services; **Bonnie Kantor-Burman**, Sc.D., Director, Ohio Department of Aging, and **Sheryl Larson, Ph.D.** National Direct Service Workforce Resource Center.

Please RSVP by April 5 at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/OhioLTCWorkforceStakeholderSummit>. Space is limited. For more information, contact Dushka Crane-Ross, Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center at dushka.crane-ross@osumc.edu or (614) 366-3126.

Additions to HOME Choice Web Pages

The following new Web links will be of interest to transition coordinators, case managers and service and support administrators:

Tutorial: Submitting a HOME Choice Payment Request to JEVS

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/OHP/providers/HOMEChoice.stm>

Illustrates the steps to properly submit a HOME Choice payment request form.

New Community Living Specialist Web Page

http://jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/HC_CLS.stm

Helps community living specialists (CLS) determine the needs and desires of Ohioans seeking a return to community living. Contains information about Section Q of the MDS 3.0, frequently asked questions, training materials, and more.

HOME Choice Communication Contacts

The **HOME Choice Intake and Care Coordination Unit** is available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Questions after hours can be e-mailed to MFP@jfs.ohio.gov or left on voicemail at 1-888-221-1560. The fax number is 1-614-466-6945.

If you need . . .	Contact.....	At.....
Basic Information on the HOME Choice Transition Program	The HOME Choice Intake and Care Coordination Unit Intake Coordinators: Diane Shinn Debra Walsh	Call: 1-888-221-1560 E-Mail: MFP@jfs.ohio.gov Website: http://jfs.ohio.gov/OHP/consumers/homechoice.stm
Help with an application	Intake Coordinators: Diane Shinn Debra Walsh	Call: 1-888-221-1560 E-mail: MFP@jfs.ohio.gov
Help with a case for a person age 22 through 59 with physical disabilities or developmental disabilities	Community Living Administrator: Laurie Damon	Call: 614-752-3576 E-mail: Laurie.damon@jfs.ohio.gov
Help with a case for a person who is age 60 and over	Community Living Administrator: Yvette Weaver	Call: 614-752-3555 E-mail: Yvette.weaver@jfs.ohio.gov
Help with a case for a person age 22 and older with primary mental health needs	Community Living Administrator: Brock Robertson	Call: 614-752-3577 (Brock) E-mail: Brock.robertson@jfs.ohio.gov
Help with a case for a child age 21 and under	Community Living Administrator: Karen Boester (temporary)	Call: 614-752-3516 E-mail: Karen.Boester@jfs.ohio.gov



Help Locating a Provider for a specific person on your caseload	Community Living Administrator assigned to the case	See preceding contacts
Help with Housing for a specific person on your caseload	Community Living Administrator assigned to the case	See preceding contacts
Help resolving an issue with the HOME Choice Intake and Care Coordination Unit (e.g., delayed paperwork, lost paperwork, customer service)	HOME Choice Operations Manager: Jane Black	Call: 614-752-3567 E-mail: Jane.black@jfs.ohio.gov
Help resolving a billing issue	JEVS Human Services	Visit http://jfs.ohio.gov/OHP/JEVS_Info-109.pdf for contact information
Help with provider enrollment	Community Living Administrator and Provider Enrollment coordinator: Brock Robertson	Call: 614-752-3577 (Brock) E-mail: Brock.robertson@jfs.ohio.gov
Help with a PASRR (pre-admission screening and resident review) issue	HOME Choice Project Director and/or Balancing Policy Manager Erika Robbins Tonya Hawkins	Call: 614-752-3738 (Erika) 614-752-3526 (Tonya) E-Mail: Erika.robbins@jfs.ohio.gov Tonya.hawkins@jfs.ohio.gov
Help with an issue related to Minimum Data Set 3.0 Section Q (Community Living Specialists)	MDS Section Q Statewide Manager Terry Moore	Call: 614-752-3638 E-mail: Terry.Moore@jfs.ohio.gov
Assistance or have questions related to the Strategic Research Group (SRG) Quality of Life Surveys	Community Living Administrator and SRG Contract Manager: Yvette Weaver	Call: 614-752-3555 E-mail: Yvette.weaver@jfs.ohio.gov
Assistance or have questions related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide outreach to providers and individuals (e.g. regional shortages, lack of individual enrollment in certain areas of the state) • Local Housing and Services Cooperatives • Training and/or conference presentations 	Statewide Outreach Coordinator: Leslie Sawyer	Call: 614-752-3563 E-mail: Leslie.sawyer@jfs.ohio.gov
Assistance or have questions related to Ohio's Balancing Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Policy • The "Front Door" Project including Preadmission Screening and Resident Review, Level of Care, single assessment, connect me ohio, community living guide • Access to Medicaid Services and Supports • Direct Support Workforce Project • State Profile for Long Term Services and Supports • HOME Choice Consumer Advisory Group 	HOME Choice Project Director: Erika Robbins Tonya Hawkins (for "Front Door" project) Nilu Ekanayake (for State Profile project)	Call: 614-752-3738 (Erika) 614-752-3526 (Tonya) 614-752-3641(Nilu) E-Mail: Erika.robbins@jfs.ohio.gov Tonya.hawkins@jfs.ohio.gov Nilukshie.Ekanayake@jfs.ohio.gov
Information regarding HOME Choice data, quality, or websites	HOME Choice Data Manager Nilu Ekanayake	Call: 614-752-3641 E-mail: Nilukshie.Ekanayake@jfs.ohio.gov

Share the *HOME Choice Bulletin!*

Transition Coordinators, Case Managers, and Service and Support Administrators: Please share the HOME Choice Bulletin with your individuals. Ask them if they would like to be featured in the "Success Story" section. If they are interested, please contact Susan McKinley at Susan.McKinley@jfs.ohio.gov or 1-888-221-1560.

Transition Coordination/Case Manager/Service and Support Administrator 2011 Conference Call Schedule

The following topics will be discussed in the 2011 technical assistance conference calls. Watch for e-mails and the HOME Choice Bulletin for more details and instructions for the calls. If you would like to be notified by e-mail, please contact MFP@jfs.ohio.gov to be added to our listserv.

April 14	Mental Health and Alcohol and Drug Addiction
June 6	State Plan Medicaid
August 11	Housing Update
October 13	SSI Ohio Project and update on electronic Medicaid applications and eligibility changes
December 8	Balancing the system update

Please Use New Forms!

Please use the following updated **HOME Choice forms**, which can be accessed at <http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/inter.asp>:

- JFS 02360 – Summary of Transition Coordination Activities
- JFS 02361 – Application
- JFS 02362 – Informed Consent
- JFS 02363 – Use of Goods and Services
- JFS 02365 – Demonstration and Supplemental Services Service Plan
- JFS 02367 – Transition Coordination – Qualified Residence Statement
- JFS 02368 – Enrollment Request (to be completed at time of discharge)
- JFS 02369 – Eligibility Checklist and Addendum to the Eligibility Checklist (for children only – completed by Family and Children First Council)
- JFS 02370 – Demographic Sheet
- JFS 02371 – Change in Status
- JFS 02378 – Payment Request

HOME Choice Administrative Code Rules Being Updated

Please watch for updates to the HOME Choice (Money Follows the Person) Demonstration Program rules. Proposed changes to OAC rules 5101:3-51-02 (HOME Choice Eligibility), 5101:3-51-04 (HOME Choice Covered Service Definitions and Provider Qualifications) and 5101:3-51-06 (HOME Choice Reimbursement) were placed in Clearance on February 2, 2010.

If you would like to be notified of these and other JFS rule updates, please send an e-mail to MFP@jfs.ohio.gov and asked to be added to our listserv.

Need a Trainer or Presenter?

If you would like to have a HOME Choice trainer or presenter come to an upcoming event, please contact Leslie Sawyer, the HOME Choice Statewide Outreach Coordinator, at 1-888-221-1560.

Mental Health Agencies and Peer Centers Needed!

HOME Choice is looking for [mental health agencies](#) and [peer centers](#) interested in participating as providers with Ohio's HOME Choice program. Please contact MFP@jfs.ohio.gov or call 1-888-221-1560 if you are interested!

News of General Interest

Update on the Front Door Stakeholder Group

The Front Door Stakeholder Group has begun to revise Ohio Administrative Code rules and forms associated with **Medicaid Functional Eligibility** (also known as Level of Care [LOC]). If you are interested in joining the full group or a subgroup (nursing facility-based LOC or ICF/DD-based LOC), please e-mail Tonya Hawkins at Tonya.Hawkins@jfs.ohio.gov.

13 More States Receive MFP Grants

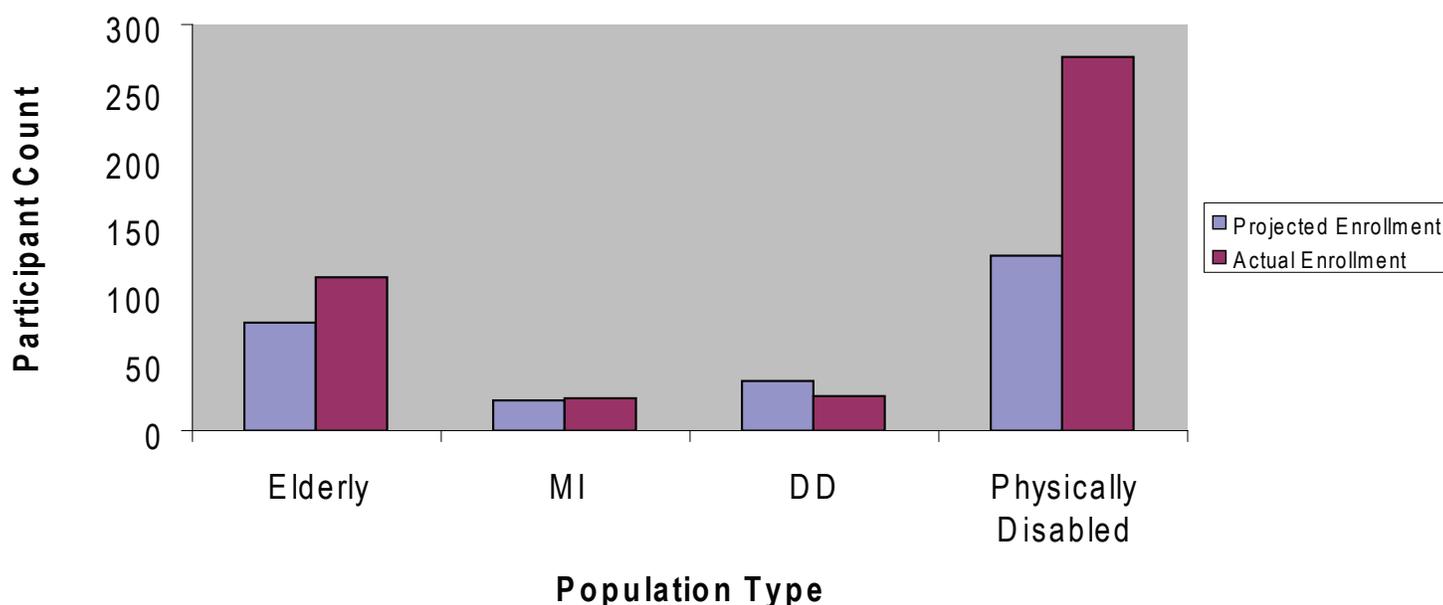
The Money Follows the Person demonstration program, which was set to expire in fiscal year 2011, was extended through the Affordable Care Act for an additional five years. Thirteen additional states received awards on February 22, 2011. They join the 29 states (including Ohio) and the District of Columbia already operating MFP programs.

The new MFP states include Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont and West Virginia. Together, these states will receive more than \$45 million in the first year of the program and more than \$621 million through 2016.

HOME Choice Statistics

HOME Choice Enrollment Exceeds Projections. In calendar year 2010, HOME Choice exceeded enrollment projections in three of its four population categories: by one in the newest category of focus, mental illness; 35 in the elderly category; and 146 in physically disabled category. The higher numbers are due to excellent ongoing partnership and networking in the physical disability community and growing momentum in the aging and mental health communities.

CY 2010 Home Choice Enrollment by Population Type



HOME Choice Statistics (as of press time):

- Individuals Enrolled: **991**
- Individuals Applied: **2,871**
- Transition Coordinators (TC): **79**
- Total Providers (Including TCs): **478**
- Referral Sources (of those who have applied):
 - ◊ NF: **1,528**
 - ◊ Community Agency: **410**
 - ◊ Self: **113**
 - ◊ Other: **473**
 - ◊ ICF/MR: **71**
 - ◊ Family: **33**
 - ◊ Friend: **31**
 - ◊ Physician: **1**

HOME Choice Referrals Welcome

The HOME Choice program accepts referrals from any source. If you know anyone living in a facility who is interested in transitioning into a community setting, please call the ODJFS HOME Choice Intake and Care Coordination Unit toll-free at 1-888-221-1560 or fax an interest form to 1-614-466-6945. Interest forms and other information can be found at <http://jfs.ohio.gov/OHP/consumers/HOMEchoice.stm>.

HOME Choice Vision Statement

Ohioans who need long-term services and support . . .

Get services and supports they need in a timely manner

In settings they want from whom they want,

And if needs change, services and supports change accordingly.

The *HOME Choice Bulletin* is a newsletter for stakeholders and anyone interested in Ohio's Money Follows the Person HOME Choice Transition Program. It provides updates, statistics, and other information about the status and progress of Ohio's HOME Choice Program four times a year.

Please contact mfp@jfs.ohio.gov if you have comments, information to share, or would like to be added to the *HOME Choice Bulletin* e-mail distribution list.

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