

## December 21, 2021

## **Announcement of Funding Awards**

The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services (OHHS) is pleased to announce the award of grants made available through the Money Follows the Person Program (MFP). MFP is a federal demonstration grant that provides participating states the opportunity to help Medicaid beneficiaries who live in institutions to transition to the community and gives people with disabilities and older adults more choice in deciding where to live and receive Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS).

This supplemental funding opportunity allows states to engage in capacity building activities to accelerate LTSS system transformation and to expand home and community-based service capacity. Rhode Island received \$5,000,000 in supplemental capacity building funds from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and is awarding that funding to projects that will support the State's goal to rebalance the LTSS system by increasing access to HCBS that support community living.

The following projects have been awarded funds. Additional award announcements are forthcoming.

Project	Contractor	Funding Amount	Project Description
SASH	St. Elizabeth Community	\$1,441,000	Expansion of the SASH model of supported housing to six additional sites, serving 500 individuals. SASH provides participants support from an onsite coordinator and RN and programs demonstrate decreased rates of hospitalization and nursing facility placement.
Housing Development	ONE Neighborhood Builders	\$800,000	Development of new housing for older adults and individuals with disabilities with special priority for individuals participating in the Nursing Home Transition Program.
Connectivity Support	OHA digiAGE	\$325,000	Provision of digital devices (such as smart phones, tablets, and/or smart speakers), internet connectivity, and training for 395 individuals diverted from nursing home placement following hospitalization and individuals transitioning from nursing homes to the community. Provision of internet capability will allow participants to use technology for telehealth; to access information and resources; to enroll in public benefits; and to engage in vital social interaction with family, friends, and community, with the goal of supporting successful transitions and avoiding reinstitutionalization.
Conflict Free Case Management	Guidehouse	\$400,000	Developing a roadmap for implementing conflict free case management statewide, including establishing a pilot program that leverages existing resources to provide high quality, coordinated person centered planning and conflict free case management to a targeted group of Rhode Islanders at need of or at risk for Medicaid LTSS and development of a plan for full implementation of conflict free case management.

Project	Contractor	Funding Amount	Project Description
Early Warning Tool for Referrals	Faulkner Consulting Group	\$157,901	Development and implementation of a tool that leverages MDS data and eligibility data to provide timely information identifying potential candidates for transition from nursing facility to community.
LTSS Redesign Support	Faulkner Consulting Group	\$283,421	Provision of support to continue implementation of the Hospital Care Transitions Initiative (HCTI), to include development of business processes, integration plans, and reporting templates. Work will also include sustainability and transition planning for the program. Implementation support for budgeted assisted living rate increase, including development of acuity tiers associated with the rates.