



## **RI's Integrated Care Initiative: Two New Programs to Manage Medicaid Long-Term Services and Supports**

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) is launching two (2) new health care options for seniors and adults with disabilities that will improve the health and quality of care members receive. The primary effort will be to manage the Medicaid long-term services and supports (LTSS) and improve the coordination of care between primary care, behavioral health services, and home and community-based services. The State will implement the Integrated Care Initiative in two phases. Phase I is described below.

### **The goals of the Integrated Care Initiative include:**

- Person-centered care
- Coordination of primary and acute care, behavioral health care and long-term services and supports
- Improve or maintain health and quality of life
- Improve transitions of care from the hospital or nursing home back to member's home
- Rebalance the long-term care system to support home and community-based living vs. institutional care
- Align financial and quality incentives to improve care

### **Who's eligible for these new health care options?**

There are approximately 28,000 Rhode Islanders who have:

- Medicaid *and* Medicare coverage or
- Medicaid coverage due to a disability or chronic condition and receive long-term services and supports

Seventy-nine (79) percent of the individuals eligible for these new programs live at home or in the community (assisted living or group home) and 21 percent live in nursing homes.

### **What options are available for eligible individuals?**

Eligible individuals have a choice of health care options. Enrollment is voluntary and will include only a person's Medicaid covered services. Medicare, Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Program, and Medicare Advantage will not change.

- **Rhody Health Options** is the new health plan option. The State is contracting with Neighborhood Health Plan of RI to provide managed long-

term services and supports and coordinate other covered services. Members who have Medicare, Medicare Advantage or Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage will still continue to be enrolled in those programs. Those services will not be affected by enrollment in Neighborhood Health Plan. Neighborhood Health Plan of RI has a long-standing relationship with the State and currently serves over 92,500 Rhode Islanders in its RIte Care and Rhody Health Partners Programs.

- **Connect Care Choice *Community Partners*** is the new program modeled on the Primary Care Case Management program, Connect Care Choice, which started in 2006 and serves approximately 2,000 individuals. The State is contracting with CareLink to coordinate managed long-term services and supports and other covered services. Connect Care Choice *Community Partners* is a Medicaid Fee-for-Service program. Members will continue to go to their Connect Care Choice (CCC) primary care site and doctor and partner with CareLink for help with care transitions, getting social support services in the community and care management. CCC Community Partners adds strength to the Connect Care Choice Program especially for the members who receive long-term services and supports or need additional social services in order to live safely at home or in the community. There are currently 17 primary care practices that participate in the Connect Care Choice Program.
- Some individuals may select **PACE** (Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly) instead of one of the new programs if they have Medicare and Medicaid coverage and meet a “high” or “highest” level of care determination by Medicaid’s Long-Term Care Office. Individuals must be 55 years old or older.
- Individuals can remain in **Medicaid Fee-for-Service** for their Medicaid covered services, i.e., long-term services and supports.

Some Medicaid services will continue to be Fee-For-Service and not offered through the health plan. They include: Medicaid dental services, non-emergency transportation, Intensive Behavioral Health Services through a Community Mental Health Center or a BHDDH licensed provider and LTSS for individuals with Developmental Disabilities.

### **When will enrollment begin?**

Enrollment will be phased in over six months. The first group of eligible individuals will receive a letter from EOHHS during the first week of September 2013. The letter will include FAQs and offer individuals a choice of programs. Enrollment will be voluntary but members will be auto-assigned to a program. They will need to call the Enrollment Help Line if they would like to switch to a different program/plan within 30 days of receiving the letter. The effective enrollment date will be

approximately 60 days after an individual receives the letter. Members can switch to a different program or remain in Medicaid Fee-for-Service. Members have an opportunity to change programs at a later date if they would like. There is no requirement to lock-in to one program. The complete enrollment schedule can be found on the EOHHS website at [www.eohhs.ri.gov](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov) under Integrated Care.

### **If this enrollment is Phase I of the Integrated Care Initiative, when will Phase II begin?**

The State intends to pursue a Phase II, fully integrated model at a later date. The intent is to have a three-way contract between the State, CMS (Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services) and managed care organizations. The State will actively pursue this opportunity with the federal government as it rolls out Phase I of the Initiative. For Phase II, it intends to offer additional health plans.

### **Will the stakeholder process continue?**

Yes. We value input from our community partners and providers and look forward to ongoing discussions on how to make the Integrated Care Initiative more effective for beneficiaries throughout the process.

### **For More Information**

For Professionals- See [www.eohhs.ri.gov](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov) "Integrated Care"  
For questions about the Integrated Care Initiative, email:  
[integratedcare@ohhs.ri.gov](mailto:integratedcare@ohhs.ri.gov)

For Consumers- Call the Enrollment Help Line at 1-855-444-3604  
Monday – Friday, 9:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Beginning Sept 9

Contracted Vendors-

#### **Rhody Health Options**

Neighborhood Health Plan of RI [www.nhpri.org](http://www.nhpri.org)

Member Services:

401-459-6601 (local), 855-996-4774 (toll-free)

#### **Connect Care Choice Community Partners**

CareLink

Member Services:

855-654-4067