

February 15, 2018

OBRA Waiver Providers:

Community HealthChoices will change the way some OBRA Waiver participants get Medical Assistance (Medicaid) services.

In January 2019, Pennsylvania will implement Community HealthChoices (CHC) in the Southeast Zone. CHC is a program that will provide physical health care and Medicaid waiver services through one managed care plan.

All Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL) waivers/programs except the OBRA Waiver and the Act 150 Program will be included in CHC. The OBRA Waiver will remain open to continue to provide services to participants who meet the following criteria:

- Intermediate care facility for persons with other related conditions (ICF/ORC) level of care between 18 and 59 years of age.
- Nursing facility clinically eligible (NFCE) level of care *and* between 18 and 20 years of age.

Level of Care Determination:

While the OBRA Waiver currently has an ICF/ORC level of care eligibility requirement, part of the CHC transition plan involves an assessment of OBRA participants to ensure they are enrolled in the appropriate waiver.

If a participant had a level of care determination (LCD) completed prior to November 17, 2017, they need a new LCD. The local Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) will have a face-to-face meeting in the person's home in order to ensure we have up-to-date LCD information on OBRA Waiver participants. Service coordinators will be responsible for obtaining completed physician certification forms for participants who require new level of care assessments, and submitting the completed forms to the appropriate AAA.

When will the assessments be done?

The LCD assessments must be done by May 13, 2018. Once the department receives the results of assessments, letters will be sent to OBRA Waiver participants. The letter will inform OBRA Waiver participants of their individual assessment results and how they will receive services, either through the OBRA Waiver or through CHC. If the person is eligible for CHC, he or she will be moved to CHC effective January 1, 2019.

Questions?

If you have any questions, you may:

- call the OLTL Participant Helpline Monday through Friday at 800-757-5042 from 9 am – 12 pm and 1 pm – 4 pm or
- email RA-PWCHCWaiverProTra@pa.gov.

Included you will find a fact sheet that provides more information on CHC, as well as the letter that is being sent to OBRA Waiver participants.

Respectfully,



Kevin Hancock
Acting Deputy Secretary

Encl: CHC Fact Sheet
Participant Communication