



OPERATIONAL MEMO

Title: Group In-Reach in LTC Nursing Facilities for Medicaid Members	Topic: Group In-Reach
Audience: Nursing Facilities	Sub-Topic: N/A
Supersedes Number: N/A	Division: Compliance and Innovation Division
Effective Date: August 1, 2023	Office: Office of Community Living
Expiration Date: June 30, 2024	Program Area: Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)
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Legal Authority: 42 CFR 441.18 ; 42 CFR 440.169 ; 10 CCR 2505-10 8.519.27.C	
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Approved By: Jill Schnathorst	

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Purpose and Audience:

The purpose of this Operational Memo is to inform Nursing Facilities of the Group In-reach Program and ways in which Nursing Facilities can support implementation of this program. The program is designed to provide our Long-Term Care (LTC) Medicaid Members currently residing in a Nursing Facility, with a brief meeting regarding transition and community-based services in a group setting.

Information:

After hearing from stakeholders, including many nursing facilities, the Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF) submitted the [FY 2023-24 BA-07 “Increase Access to Community-Based Services”](#) budget request as a proactive response to findings from the United States Department of Justice. This request was included in the Long Bill signed May 1, 2023. As such, HCPF is working to implement the initiatives included in the request, including Group In-Reach. The purpose of Group In-Reach is to educate

individuals living in a Nursing Facility and their natural supports about community-based living options and transition services in a group setting.

For the first year of implementation, Group In-Reach will be completed by the Department's In-Reach Coordination team with the intention to host at least one Group In-Reach session at each Medicaid funded Nursing Facility in the State by June 30, 2024. After the first year, the Department will establish a contract to continue Group In-Reach every six months at each facility moving forward.

Nursing Facility Role in Group In-Reach

HCPF has been tasked with improving educational efforts related to transition of care for Members residing in the Nursing Facility. To achieve this goal, HCPF will be conducting regular in person group outreach meetings. Nursing Facilities will be contacted to schedule meetings and asked to provide a private space, if one exists, to promote resident self-determination in accordance with CFR 483.10(f). The first year HCPF will conduct one Group In-Reach Meeting in the facility, beginning in August of 2023, with the last meeting ending no later than June 30, 2024.

Actions to be Taken:

HCPF will request Nursing Facilities to schedule a meeting with at least two weeks of notice from the In-Reach counselors. Nursing Facilities should do their best to make a private space, like the space used to resident council meetings, available for the Group In-Reach counseling to take place. Nursing Facilities will be asked to provide information to LTC Members residing in the Nursing Facility of the Group In-Reach counseling date and time, this can include personal notification, signage in the facility, a letter, etc.

Definition(s):

In-Reach Counseling is a service designed to engage and provide institutionalized population Members with information regarding housing, transition, and other community-based services available to support them living in the community; and to answer any questions that may arise. In-Reach Counseling supports the referral process to transition coordination and other services and supports Members with making an Informed Choice about where they live.

Attachment(s):

None

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