

Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living

House Human Services Testimony

February 23, 2017

Choices for Care (CFC) is designed to support people to live in the settings of their choice. Within CFC, there are three eligibility groups: Highest, High and Moderate Needs. Vermonters who are enrolled in the Highest or High Needs Groups can choose to receive services in their own homes, nursing homes, Enhanced Residential Care (ERC) homes, or Adult Family Care (AFC) homes. Vermonters who are enrolled in the Moderate Needs Group live in their own home, do not meet nursing home level of care and have a choice of limited home and community based services. The success of Choices for Care is measured against several core objectives, incorporated into a Results Based Accountability (RBA) format. Initially, the program's goal was to achieve a 60:40 balance between people receiving services in nursing homes and home- and community-based settings (HCBS). Having achieved this goal, a new target of 50:50 was established and surpassed in January 2014. Currently, 46% of all High/Highest enrollments were in the Nursing Facility setting (1% decline from SFY15).

In January 2015, Choices for Care was consolidated into Vermont's Global Commitment to Health waiver. The consolidation provides the State opportunities for administrative efficiencies and opportunities for program improvements across all "specialized services".

People Served:

- July 2016, total number of people enrolled in Choices for Care was 5500, an increase of 99 people from the end of SFY 15. This is a 2% increase in total program participation.
- Home-Based High/Highest 1659 people (5% increase from SFY15)
- Enhanced Residential Care High/Highest 504 people (11% increase from SFY15)
- Nursing Facility High/Highest 1870 people (4% increase from SFY15)
- Moderate Needs 1467 people (7% reduction from SFY15)
- 77 people enrolled in MFP to receive help in transitioning from nursing home to community (4% decline from previous year)