

Memorandum

To: Choices for Care Case Management Agencies and Hospice Providers
From: Megan Tierney-Ward, Aging & Disabilities Program Manager
Date: October 26, 2012
Re: Dual Enrollment for CFC and Hospice Policy Continuation

July 2011, the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living (DAIL) revised its policy regarding dual participation in Choices for Care (CFC) and Hospice, allowing eligible individuals on either program to be enrolled in both programs simultaneously. The goal was to eliminate any possible barriers that may prevent a person from choosing Hospice services and to address any unmet needs that a person may have that can be met with both Hospice and CFC services. The policy change was implemented for a trial period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

Data collected shows that the number of people participating in both CFC and Hospice statewide each quarter has increased by an average of 47% since the policy change July 1, 2011. In addition, the overall use of Hospice statewide each quarter has increased an average of 19% since the policy change. Though there is no data to indicate the direct cause of this growth in Hospice participation, or the cost implications to the state, it is a positive move towards the goal of higher overall utilization of Hospice services.

Based on the data collected and the need for additional data, DAIL is continuing the policy of dual enrollment for CFC and Hospice for another year through June 30, 2013. DAIL will continue to work with home health hospice providers to gather information to further determine the effects of the July 2011 policy change.

Hospice providers, please continue to use the attached form with a copy to DAIL, the LTCCC and CFC case manager.

Finally, as a reminder, please be sure that people who are receiving Hospice services and considering applying to CFC are fully informed of the CFC program application process. This includes informing them about the requirement to meet Long-Term Care Medicaid financial criteria and estate recovery.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

C: Peter Cobb/VAHHA, Nick McCardle/Bayada, VT Hospice Coordinators, CFC Case Management Supervisors, LTCCC, Jackie Majoros/LTC Ombudsman, Janet Pare/DCF, DVHA