

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council Report

October 2023

Louisiana Department of Health

Bureau of Health Services Financing



Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	2
Section 1 – Medicaid PHE Unwind	3
Section 2 – Act 421 Children’s Medicaid Option/TEFRA.....	3
Section 3 – Permanent Supportive Housing	4
Section 4 – Money Follows the Person.....	4
Section 5 – Self-Direction.....	5
Section 6 – Electronic Visit Verification	6
Section 7 – Behavioral Health	6
Subsection 7.1 – Behavioral Health Network Adequacy Report 2023 Q2 (April-June)	7
Section 8 – Applied Behavior Analysis-Based Therapy Services	9

Section 1 – Medicaid PHE Unwind

The Medicaid renewal process resumed in May of 2023. Individuals that receive Medicaid benefits, including Act 421-CMO beneficiaries, will have to renew their coverage within the next 12 months. It is important to let Medicaid know about any changes to mailing addresses and phone numbers to ensure that Medicaid can contact families to process renewals.

Some eligibility reviews can be completed without contacting the member by using information from electronic databases. Many, however, will require members to respond to mail. Members who are closed because of a failure to respond to the renewal packet have 90 days after their closure date to complete their renewal and reinstate their coverage, if they are still eligible. They can do this a number of ways:

- Online at Medicaid's self-service portal (MyMedicaid.la.gov). An account log in and password is required.
- By submitting their completed renewal packet to Medicaid by email (MyMedicaid@la.gov), by fax (877-523-2987), by mail (Louisiana Medicaid, PO Box 91283 Baton Rouge, LA 70821) or in person at a regional Medicaid office (find a regional Medicaid office online at www.ldh.la.gov/medicaidoffices).
- By calling Medicaid at #1-888-342-6207.

Section 2 – Act 421 Children's Medicaid Option/TEFRA

Medicaid launched Act 421 Children's Medicaid Option (Act 421 - CMO), or TEFRA, on January 1, 2022. **As of September 27, Act 421-CMO/TEFRA has approved 1468 children for Medicaid coverage who would not otherwise be eligible.** There are approximately 460 more applicants currently under review for a level of care or disability determination.

The TEFRA option, which disregards family income, covers needed services for children under 19 years of age with disabilities who meet specific criteria allowing them to grow and thrive while living at home. To qualify, children must have a disability that is recognized under the definition utilized in the Supplemental Security Income program of the Social Security Administration and must meet basic Medicaid and institutional level-of-care requirements. Additionally, their care at home must cost less than care provided in an institution.

In April 2022, changes to the intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICF/IID) level of care requirements broadened to include children under three years of age who have EarlySteps eligibility. At implementation of the program, children under three years of age did not qualify for ICF level of care because they were ineligible for a statement of approval (SOA) from OCDD.

Helpful documents are located in the Resources section of the Act 421-CMO webpage. These resources include informational pages detailing general requirements for the program, the level of care process, and a flowchart of the application process. For more information, visit www.ldh.la.gov/Act421.

There are four (4) general steps to enrolling in the Act 421-CMO program. The process can take as much as 90 days to complete. An application workflow can be found [here](#).

Step 1 - Completing a Medicaid Application

Step 2 - Level of Care Assessment at your Human Services District/Authority – the applicant must meet an institutional level of care for an ICF, nursing facility, or hospital.

Step 3 - Disability Determination – applicants must qualify as a disabled individual under section 1614(a) of the Social Security Act

Step 4 - Enrollment/Service Coverage through a Healthy Louisiana plan

The Act 421-CMO level of care (LOC) assessment aligns with the Medicaid eligibility process so that both the financial and programmatic reviews occur at the same time. The process used when families initially applied for Act 421 will be the same for renewals. If it is determined that a new LOC assessment is needed for the renewal, the LOC packet will be mailed to the family and, upon receipt of completed packets, the LGE will contact the family to complete the LOC assessment. If there is no response to the LOC packet mailed out, the Act 421-CMO staff will continue to follow up with families by phone to check on the status of the LOC packet. **The response rate to the renewal and level of care packets for the first five months of renewals so far is approximately 92%.**

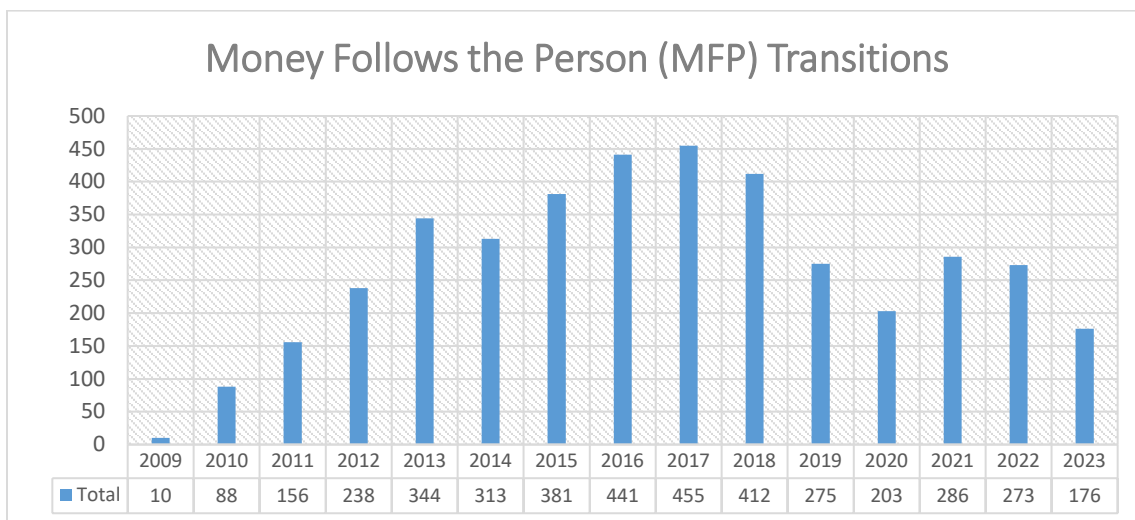
Section 3 – Permanent Supportive Housing

OAAS, OCDD and OBH continue to assist participants to transition into Permanent Supportive Housing. **There are currently 3,860 individuals being served and 2,387 households providing Permanent Supportive Housing.** A total of 8,743 individuals have been served since the beginning of the program.

Section 4 – Money Follows the Person

As of September 1, 2023, approximately 4,051 individuals have transitioned from qualified institutions (hospitals, nursing facilities and supports and services centers), through the Money Follows the Person (MFP) program.

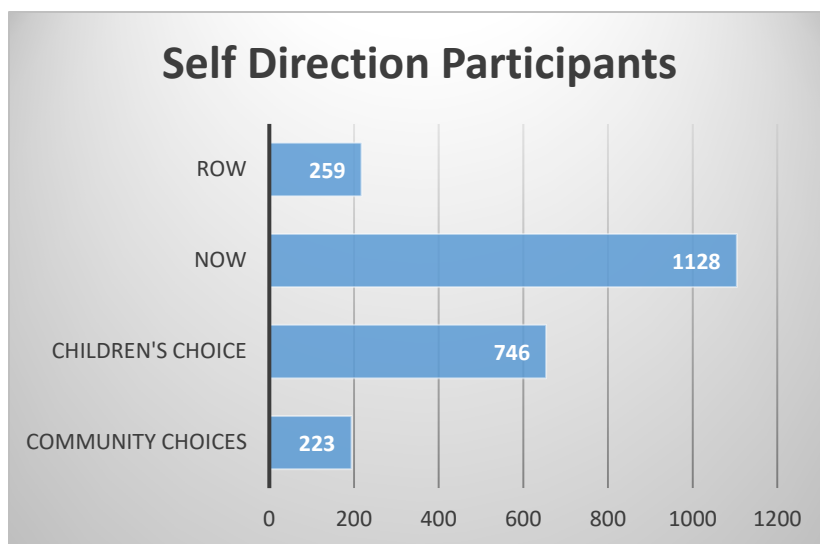
See below transitions shown by calendar year:



On December 23, 2022 notable provisions to the [Consolidated Appropriations Act](#) was signed into law. This law extends the Money Follows the Person (MFP) program at \$450 million a year through September 30, 2027.

Section 5 – Self-Direction

As of August 31, 2023, there are 2,356 individuals enrolled in the Self-Direction option. See below participant breakdown by waiver:



ROW, NOW, CC, and CCW participants who are interested in self-direction are all offered Freedom of Choice (FOC) to select a fiscal employer agent: Acumen or Morning Sun. Morning Sun

provided fiscal management services to 432 participants/employers and Acumen provided services to 1,924 participants/employers (includes both OAAS/OCDD waiver populations). Self-direction participants may change fiscal employer agencies at the beginning of each calendar quarter.

Section 6 – Electronic Visit Verification

LDH and its contractor, Statistical Resources, Inc. (SRI), continue to train and work with providers statewide regarding in-home electronic visit verification (EVV). Ongoing technical assistance is offered to providers as needed.

All personal care service providers are reporting services through electronic visit verification. **Approximately 92% of providers continue to meet the state benchmark of 80% EVV input.** LDH continues to work with providers to increase compliance with EVV requirements and provide technical assistance when requested.

Section 7 – Behavioral Health

The Statewide Coordinated System of Care (CSoC) waiver enrollment totaled 2,217 as of September 22, 2023. This data includes all children presumptively eligible and enrolled in the CSoc 1915 b/c waivers.

Region/Parish	Participant Count
Region 1 (Jefferson/Orleans area)	299
Region 2 (Capital area)	246
Region 3 (Covington area)	199
Region 4 (Thibodeaux area)	230
Region 5 (Lafayette area)	315
Region 6 (Lake Charles area)	137
Region 7 (Alexandria area)	173
Region 8 (Shreveport area)	154
Region 9 (Monroe area)	464
Total	2,217

Subsection 7.1 – Behavioral Health Network Adequacy Report 2023 Q2 (April-June)

All Plans								
DHH Administrative Regions	Addiction Outpatient	BH Rehabilitation	Crisis Stabilization	*Outpatient Therapy	Psychiatric Inpatient	Residential	Family Support Organizations	Total
Region 1 & 10 : Greater NO Area & Jefferson Parish	76	126	0	1,622	25	29	0	1,878
Region 2 : Capital Area	84	111	2	792	27	28	0	1,044
Region 3 : South Central LA	24	29	0	427	11	3	0	494
Region 4 : Acadiana	38	51	0	64	36	18	0	207
Region 5 : Southwest LA	20	18	0	158	16	8	0	220
Region 6 : Central LA	31	39	0	609	15	13	0	707
Region 7 : Northwest LA	42	95	2	185	16	11	0	351
Region 8 : Northeast LA	76	73	0	337	14	25	0	525
Region 9 : Northshore Area	40	47	0	386	19	9	0	501
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	431	589	4	4,580	179	144	0	5,927
**Grand Total consist of the sum of all providers from each plan, which may include duplicates.								
PLAN 1 : AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana (ACLA)								
DHH Administrative Regions	Addiction Outpatient	BH Rehabilitation	Crisis Stabilization	*Outpatient Therapy	Psychiatric Inpatient	Residential	Family Support Organizations	Total
Region 1 & 10 : Greater NO Area & Jefferson Parish	16	60	0	649	14	15	0	754
Region 2 : Capital Area	35	51	2	350	15	13	0	466
Region 3 : South Central LA	8	16	0	114	7	2	0	147
Region 4 : Acadiana	12	21	0	27	18	4	0	82
Region 5 : Southwest LA	9	10	0	17	8	3	0	47
Region 6 : Central LA	14	24	0	227	9	6	0	280
Region 7 : Northwest LA	20	50	2	87	9	5	0	173
Region 8 : Northeast LA	38	43	0	140	7	16	0	244
Region 9 : Northshore Area	11	22	0	175	10	5	0	223
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unduplicated Grand Total	163	297	4	1,786	97	69	0	2,416
PLAN 2 : AETNA BETTER HEALTH OF LOUISIANA								
DHH Administrative Regions	Addiction Outpatient	BH Rehabilitation	Crisis Stabilization	*Outpatient Therapy	Psychiatric Inpatient	Residential	Family Support Organizations	Total
Region 1 & 10 : Greater NO Area & Jefferson Parish	6	30	0	140	7	5	0	188
Region 2 : Capital Area	5	29	0	99	9	8	0	150
Region 3 : South Central LA	3	7	0	45	6	1	0	62
Region 4 : Acadiana	3	13	0	52	11	2	0	81
Region 5 : Southwest LA	2	7	0	33	6	0	0	48
Region 6 : Central LA	0	10	0	70	5	3	0	88
Region 7 : Northwest LA	1	23	0	83	9	0	0	116
Region 8 : Northeast LA	5	20	0	89	5	7	0	126
Region 9 : Northshore Area	3	4	0	62	6	1	0	76
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unduplicated Grand Total	28	143	0	673	64	27	0	935
PLAN 3 : Healthy Blue Louisiana								
DHH Administrative Regions	Addiction Outpatient	BH Rehabilitation	Crisis Stabilization	*Outpatient Therapy	Psychiatric Inpatient	Residential	Family Support Organizations	Total
Region 1 & 10 : Greater NO Area & Jefferson Parish	13	57	0	401	12	13	0	496
Region 2 : Capital Area	13	63	1	313	14	16	0	420
Region 3 : South Central LA	4	17	0	149	9	2	0	181
Region 4 : Acadiana	3	32	0	245	16	9	0	305
Region 5 : Southwest LA	5	13	0	140	9	4	0	171
Region 6 : Central LA	6	24	0	165	10	5	0	210
Region 7 : Northwest LA	12	52	0	179	10	5	0	258
Region 8 : Northeast LA	10	46	0	239	8	15	0	318
Region 9 : Northshore Area	13	20	0	264	10	3	0	310
Out of State	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	11
Unduplicated Grand Total	79	324	1	2,106	98	72	0	2,680
PLAN 4 : Humana Healthy Horizons in Louisiana								
DHH Administrative Regions	Addiction Outpatient	BH Rehabilitation	Crisis Stabilization	*Outpatient Therapy	Psychiatric Inpatient	Residential	Family Support Organizations	Total
Region 1 & 10 : Greater NO Area & Jefferson Parish	4	26	0	732	1	10	0	773
Region 2 : Capital Area	6	22	0	347	4	12	0	391
Region 3 : South Central LA	0	7	0	144	2	1	0	154
Region 4 : Acadiana	1	8	0	222	6	7	0	244
Region 5 : Southwest LA	1	3	0	121	4	2	0	131
Region 6 : Central LA	6	10	0	111	4	2	0	133
Region 7 : Northwest LA	2	34	0	200	3	2	0	241
Region 8 : Northeast LA	1	17	0	198	3	10	0	229
Region 9 : Northshore Area	3	11	0	337	2	3	0	356
Out of State	0	0	0	112	0	0	0	112
Unduplicated Grand Total	24	138	0	2,524	29	49	0	2,764

PLAN 5 : LOUISIANA HEALTHCARE CONNECTION								
DHH Administrative Regions	Addiction Outpatient	BH Rehabilitation	Crisis Stabilization	*Outpatient Therapy	Psychiatric Inpatient	Residential	Family Support Organizations	Total
Region 1 & 10 : Greater NO Area & Jefferson Parish	30	62	0	377	15	18	0	502
Region 2 : Capital Area	52	51	1	281	12	13	0	410
Region 3 : South Central LA	13	13	0	100	9	2	0	137
Region 4 : Acadiana	22	21	0	193	22	7	0	265
Region 5 : Southwest LA	11	12	0	98	10	4	0	135
Region 6 : Central LA	20	19	0	118	9	7	0	173
Region 7 : Northwest LA	22	49	0	152	9	5	0	237
Region 8 : Northeast LA	42	51	0	179	8	17	0	297
Region 9 : Northshore Area	21	26	0	163	9	5	0	224
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unduplicated Grand Total	233	304	1	1,661	103	78	0	2,380
PLAN 6 : UNITED HEALTHCARE OF LOUISIANA								
DHH Administrative Regions	Addiction Outpatient	BH Rehabilitation	Crisis Stabilization	*Outpatient Therapy	Psychiatric Inpatient	Residential	Family Support Organizations	Total
Region 1 & 10 : Greater NO Area & Jefferson Parish	53	72	0	300	16	12	0	453
Region 2 : Capital Area	59	51	1	222	17	16	0	366
Region 3 : South Central LA	18	17	0	262	10	2	0	309
Region 4 : Acadiana	29	26	0	102	20	10	0	187
Region 5 : Southwest LA	16	11	0	166	9	6	0	208
Region 6 : Central LA	17	22	0	92	10	5	0	146
Region 7 : Northwest LA	33	53	0	118	9	8	0	221
Region 8 : Northeast LA	58	51	0	191	10	11	0	321
Region 9 : Northshore Area	24	28	0	113	12	4	0	181
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unduplicated Grand Total	307	331	1	1,566	113	74	0	2,392

Source: Healthy Louisiana Managed Care Reporting - Behavioral Health Provider Network Detail Report

Note: *Indicates provider counts calculated using NPI numbers of independently practicing practitioners and the service address of provider agencies

Section 8 – Applied Behavior Analysis-Based Therapy Services

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy was carved into the managed care delivery system on February 1, 2018. Below is a summary of ABA utilization in August 2023.

	ACLA	AETNA	Healthy Blue	Humana	LHCC	UHC	TOTALS
Number of CCMs with ASD	1266	225	431	5	651	74	2652
Number of PAs Requested for CCMs with ASD	26	5	42	3	53	7	136
Number of PAs approved for CCMs with ASD	25	5	42	3	53	7	135
Number of PAs denied	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Claims Paid for CCMs with ASD	\$224,874.82	\$74,698.99	\$296,312.20	\$496.88	\$580,127.84	\$56,202.33	\$1,232,713.06
Enrolled Provider Groups	99	136	223	32	152	98	
Total licensed BCBAs	424	695	927	272	816	575	

TABLE GUIDE:

PA = Prior Authorization

CCMs = Chisholm Class Members

ASD = Autism Spectrum Disorder

Louisiana Department of Health

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