

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council Report

January 2024

Louisiana Department of Health

Bureau of Health Services Financing



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Section 1 – Ending of Continuous Medicaid

The 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA), signed into law by President Biden on December 30, 2022, included fiscal and programmatic impacts on the Medicaid program, including the termination of continuous coverage established in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). As a result, beginning in April 2023, Medicaid started reviewing eligibility for all 2 million-plus Medicaid members and closing anyone who is not eligible.

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](https://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 December 22, Act 421-CMO/TEFRA has approved 1723 children for Medicaid coverage who would not otherwise be eligible. There are approximately 813 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 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. Renewal letters will continue to be sent out at the end of the month.

The Act 421-CMO level of care (LOC) process 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 process used 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.

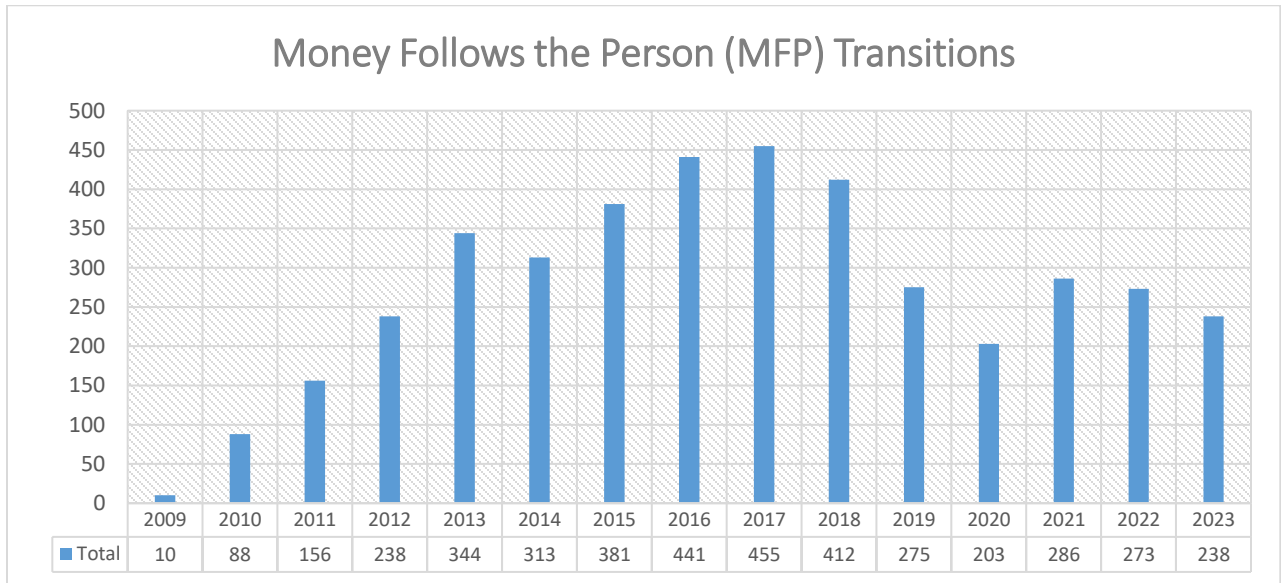
Section 3 – Permanent Supportive Housing

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 December 1, 2023, approximately 4,113 individuals have transitioned from qualified institutions (hospitals, nursing facilities and supports and services centers), through the Money Follows the Person (MFP) program.

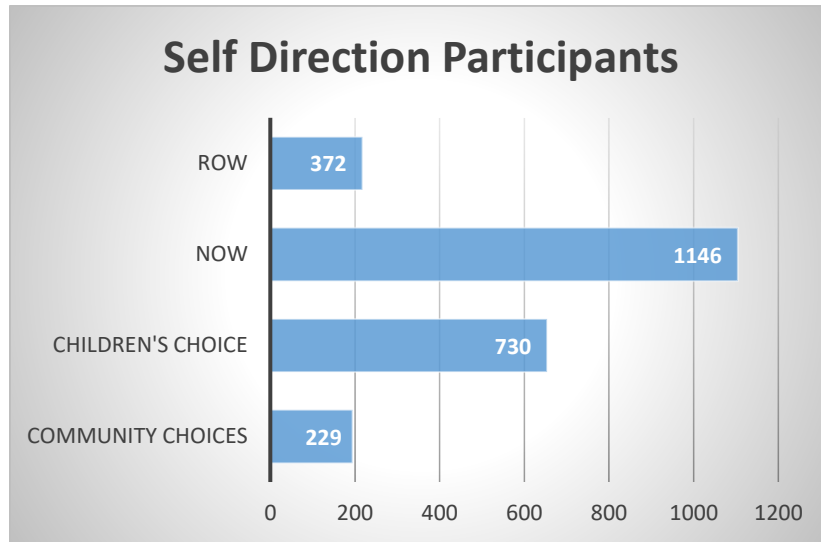
See below transitions shown by calendar year:



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 November 30, 2023, there are 2,477 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 492 participants/employers and Acumen provided services to 1,985 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 94% 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 2,237 as of 12/15/2023. 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)	220
Region 2 (Capital area)	240
Region 3 (Covington area)	211
Region 4 (Thibodeaux area)	259
Region 5 (Lafayette area)	338
Region 6 (Lake Charles area)	143
Region 7 (Alexandria area)	184
Region 8 (Shreveport area)	164
Region 9 (Monroe area)	478
Total	2,237

Subsection 7.1 – Behavioral Health Network Adequacy Report 2023 Q3 (July-September)

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	59	101	0	1,479	23	26	0	1,688
Region 2 : Capital Area	79	105	1	793	22	22	0	1,024
Region 3 : South Central LA	20	25	0	307	10	5	0	367
Region 4 : Acadiana	41	45	0	136	30	13	0	265
Region 5 : Southwest LA	19	17	0	63	14	6	0	119
Region 6 : Central LA	26	34	0	523	14	8	0	605
Region 7 : Northwest LA	39	93	0	153	13	7	0	307
Region 8 : Northeast LA	68	73	0	391	12	22	0	566
Region 9 : Northshore Area	37	48	0	488	17	10	0	600
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	388	514	1	4,333	155	119	0	5,541
**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	14	54	0	500	12	14	0	594
Region 2 : Capital Area	33	47	1	257	11	12	0	362
Region 3 : South Central LA	7	15	0	82	6	2	0	112
Region 4 : Acadiana	13	20	0	27	11	5	0	76
Region 5 : Southwest LA	9	9	0	17	6	4	0	45
Region 6 : Central LA	13	22	0	178	6	6	0	225
Region 7 : Northwest LA	18	46	0	80	5	5	0	156
Region 8 : Northeast LA	35	41	0	107	6	12	0	201
Region 9 : Northshore Area	10	19	0	117	8	8	0	162
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unduplicated Grand Total	152	273	1	1,365	71	68	0	1,933
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	7	30	0	139	7	16	0	199
Region 2 : Capital Area	5	9	1	88	6	8	0	116
Region 3 : South Central LA	2	14	0	42	6	0	0	64
Region 4 : Acadiana	2	14	0	46	10	2	0	74
Region 5 : Southwest LA	0	4	0	29	6	0	0	39
Region 6 : Central LA	0	13	0	63	4	1	0	81
Region 7 : Northwest LA	2	26	0	81	10	0	0	119
Region 8 : Northeast LA	4	24	0	91	3	23	0	145
Region 9 : Northshore Area	0	2	0	61	7	0	0	70
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unduplicated Grand Total	22	136	1	640	59	50	0	907
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	17	53	0	296	9	13	0	388
Region 2 : Capital Area	15	62	1	228	7	16	0	329
Region 3 : South Central LA	5	17	0	98	7	2	0	129
Region 4 : Acadiana	8	30	0	183	10	9	0	240
Region 5 : Southwest LA	9	11	0	105	4	4	0	133
Region 6 : Central LA	6	25	0	153	6	5	0	195
Region 7 : Northwest LA	13	50	0	173	6	5	0	247
Region 8 : Northeast LA	16	44	0	189	5	15	0	269
Region 9 : Northshore Area	15	22	0	176	7	3	0	223
Out of State	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8
Unduplicated Grand Total	104	314	1	1,609	61	72	0	2,161
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	10	26	0	698	1	13	0	748
Region 2 : Capital Area	7	39	1	287	4	7	0	345
Region 3 : South Central LA	2	9	0	126	3	4	0	144
Region 4 : Acadiana	2	15	0	169	5	3	0	194
Region 5 : Southwest LA	1	3	0	110	4	3	0	121
Region 6 : Central LA	1	15	0	135	3	0	0	154
Region 7 : Northwest LA	4	38	0	202	4	2	0	250
Region 8 : Northeast LA	2	29	0	171	2	12	0	216
Region 9 : Northshore Area	3	19	0	283	2	1	0	308
Out of State	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Unduplicated Grand Total	32	193	1	2,182	28	45	0	2,481

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	31	62	0	345	11	18	0	467
Region 2 : Capital Area	53	51	1	264	10	13	0	392
Region 3 : South Central LA	12	13	0	94	7	2	0	128
Region 4 : Acadiana	23	21	0	182	15	7	0	248
Region 5 : Southwest LA	11	12	0	98	7	4	0	132
Region 6 : Central LA	20	19	0	118	9	7	0	173
Region 7 : Northwest LA	23	49	0	135	8	5	0	220
Region 8 : Northeast LA	43	51	0	168	6	18	0	286
Region 9 : Northshore Area	21	26	0	160	7	7	0	221
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unduplicated Grand Total	237	304	1	1,564	80	81	0	2,267
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	30	66	0	794	16	7	0	913
Region 2 : Capital Area	51	50	1	418	16	11	0	547
Region 3 : South Central LA	12	17	0	123	10	2	0	164
Region 4 : Acadiana	23	26	0	232	20	9	0	310
Region 5 : Southwest LA	11	11	0	112	9	4	0	147
Region 6 : Central LA	14	21	0	112	10	2	0	159
Region 7 : Northwest LA	26	54	0	229	9	2	0	320
Region 8 : Northeast LA	43	50	0	179	10	11	0	293
Region 9 : Northshore Area	22	27	0	250	12	4	0	315
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unduplicated Grand Total	232	322	1	2,449	112	52	0	3,168

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 November 2023.

	ACLA	AETNA	Healthy Blue	Humana	LHCC	UHC	TOTALS
Number of CCMs with ASD	1214	227	438	1	728	507	3115
Number of PAs Requested for CCMs with ASD	13	9	25	1	45	20	113
Number of PAs approved for CCMs with ASD	13	9	25	1	45	20	113
Number of PAs denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Claims Paid for CCMs with ASD	\$199,570.59	\$89,411.14	\$292,945.20	\$9,447.97	\$667,263.78	\$360,890.08	\$1,619,528.76
Enrolled Provider Groups	105	141	223	32	138	102	
Total licensed BCBA's	447	764	927	227	822	645	

TABLE GUIDE:

PA = Prior Authorization
 CCMs = Chisholm Class Members
 ASD = Autism Spectrum Disorder

Louisiana Department of Health

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