

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council Report

April 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 FFCRA. As a result, beginning in April 2023, Medicaid will re-start 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 2022, Act 421-CMO/TEFRA has approved 1998 children for Medicaid coverage who would not otherwise be eligible. Additionally, there are approximately 618 more applicants currently under review for a level of care or disability determination and another 337 applicants that need to return documents in order to be reviewed for TEFRA.

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. The first round of renewal letters mailed out the last week in April 2023. Each month, the 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. The response rate to the Medicaid renewal and level of care packets for the first nine (9) months since renewals resumed, is approximately 95%.

Section 3 – Permanent Supportive Housing

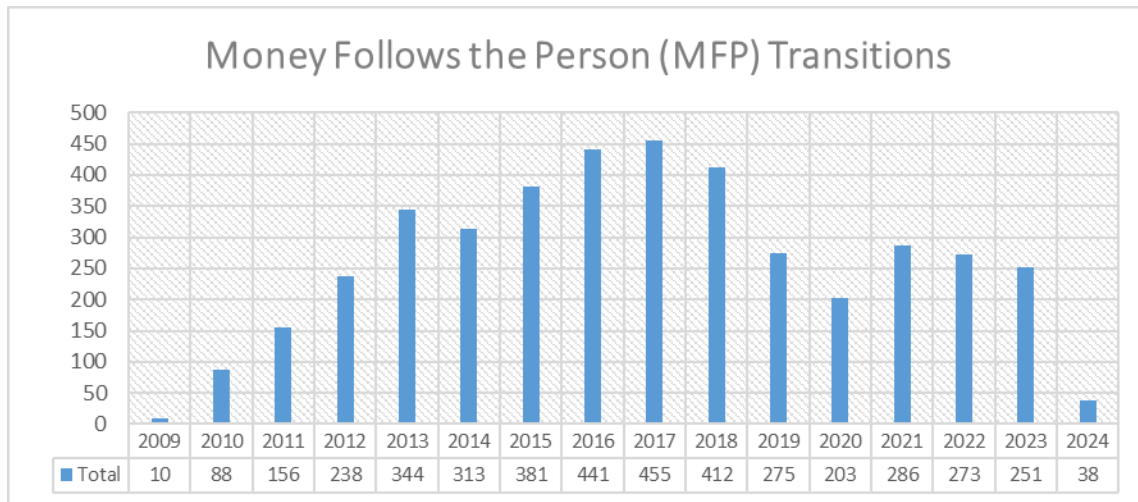
OAAS, OCDD and OBH continue to assist participants to transition into Permanent Supportive Housing. There are currently 4,115 individuals being served and 2,550 households providing

Permanent Supportive Housing. A total of 8,879 individuals have been served since the beginning of the program.

Section 4 – Money Follows the Person

As of March 1, 2024, approximately 4,164 individuals have transitioned from qualified institutions (hospitals, nursing facilities and supports and services centers), through the Money Follows the Person (MFP) program.

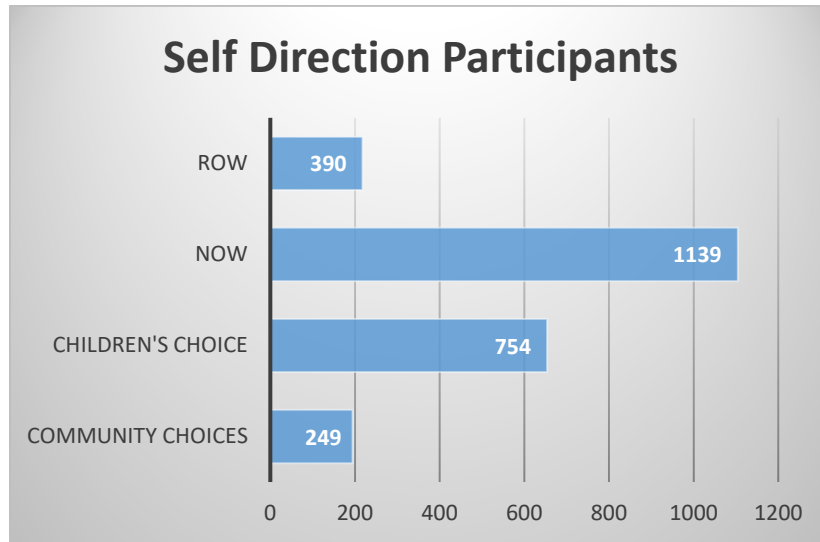
See below transitions shown by calendar year:



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, 2028.

Section 5 – Self-Direction

As of February 29, 2023, there are 2,532 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 537 participants/employers and Acumen provided services to 1,995 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.

In October 2022, the Louisiana Office of State Procurement (OSP) issued a Notice of Intent to Award to the current contractor, Statistical Resources, Inc. (SRI). On November 3, 2022, OSP issued a Stay of Notice of Intent to Award due to a protest received from Therapy Services, LLC.

In January 2023, OSP upheld the protest, and the RFP was cancelled. A new RFP is under development for these services.

Section 7 – Behavioral Health

The Statewide Coordinated System of Care (CSoC) waiver enrollment totaled 2,265 as of 3/15/2024. 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)	264
Region 2 (Capital area)	253
Region 3 (Covington area)	201
Region 4 (Thibodeaux area)	265
Region 5 (Lafayette area)	353
Region 6 (Lake Charles area)	133
Region 7 (Alexandria area)	182
Region 8 (Shreveport area)	156
Region 9 (Monroe area)	458
Total	2,265

Subsection 7.1 – Behavioral Health Network Adequacy Report 2023 Q4 (October - December)

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	56	100	0	1,469	22	23	0	1,675
Region 2 : Capital Area	74	85	1	754	21	21	0	956
Region 3 : South Central LA	17	22	0	303	10	6	0	359
Region 4 : Acadiana	39	44	0	456	31	9	0	581
Region 5 : Southwest LA	20	17	0	267	14	7	0	325
Region 6 : Central LA	28	36	0	361	14	10	0	449
Region 7 : Northwest LA	44	86	0	480	13	6	0	629
Region 8 : Northeast LA	66	72	0	468	15	26	0	647
Region 9 : Northshore Area	31	43	0	553	16	10	0	654
Out of State	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	6
Grand Total	375	505	1	5,117	156	118	0	6,281

**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	12	52	0	506	12	14	0	596
Region 2 : Capital Area	33	46	1	256	14	12	0	362
Region 3 : South Central LA	6	14	0	79	6	1	0	106
Region 4 : Acadiana	13	20	0	26	13	6	0	78
Region 5 : Southwest LA	7	8	0	16	7	3	0	41
Region 6 : Central LA	13	21	0	186	6	6	0	232
Region 7 : Northwest LA	18	47	0	51	4	4	0	124
Region 8 : Northeast LA	35	38	0	106	6	15	0	200
Region 9 : Northshore Area	11	16	0	123	8	7	0	165
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unduplicated Grand Total	148	262	1	1,349	76	68	0	1,904

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	8	19	0	138	6	2	0	174
Region 2 : Capital Area	1	9	1	83	5	1	0	99
Region 3 : South Central LA	2	7	0	45	5	1	0	60
Region 4 : Acadiana	2	10	0	56	7	2	0	78
Region 5 : Southwest LA	0	1	0	23	6	1	0	31
Region 6 : Central LA	4	5	0	60	5	3	0	77
Region 7 : Northwest LA	1	21	0	89	8	3	0	122
Region 8 : Northeast LA	5	13	0	93	5	6	0	122
Region 9 : Northshore Area	3	7	0	67	6	2	0	85
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unduplicated Grand Total	26	92	1	654	53	21	0	848

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	11	63	0	296	10	9	0	389
Region 2 : Capital Area	6	44	1	228	7	11	0	296
Region 3 : South Central LA	4	13	0	98	8	1	0	124
Region 4 : Acadiana	7	23	0	183	13	3	0	229
Region 5 : Southwest LA	9	13	0	105	6	3	0	136
Region 6 : Central LA	5	19	0	153	6	5	0	188
Region 7 : Northwest LA	15	50	0	173	7	2	0	247
Region 8 : Northeast LA	15	37	0	189	5	15	0	261
Region 9 : Northshore Area	10	19	0	176	7	2	0	214
Out of State	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8
Unduplicated Grand Total	82	281	1	1,609	69	51	0	2,092

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	8	25	0	357	1	15	0	406
Region 2 : Capital Area	11	41	1	184	4	15	0	256
Region 3 : South Central LA	2	10	0	62	3	4	0	81
Region 4 : Acadiana	3	20	0	103	4	6	0	136
Region 5 : Southwest LA	2	3	0	67	4	5	0	81
Region 6 : Central LA	4	17	0	78	3	3	0	105
Region 7 : Northwest LA	7	40	0	121	3	4	0	175
Region 8 : Northeast LA	3	32	0	108	2	12	0	157
Region 9 : Northshore Area	6	22	0	163	2	3	0	196
Out of State	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Unduplicated Grand Total	46	210	1	1,244	26	67	0	1,594

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	55	0	345	11	19	0	461
Region 2 : Capital Area	50	46	1	271	10	13	0	391
Region 3 : South Central LA	12	10	0	94	7	1	0	124
Region 4 : Acadiana	23	21	0	187	15	7	0	253
Region 5 : Southwest LA	9	11	0	98	7	3	0	128
Region 6 : Central LA	21	20	0	116	9	7	0	173
Region 7 : Northwest LA	25	47	0	133	8	4	0	217
Region 8 : Northeast LA	45	56	0	163	6	21	0	291
Region 9 : Northshore Area	19	20	0	160	7	7	0	213
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unduplicated Grand Total	235	286	1	1,567	80	82	0	2,251

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	69	0	361	16	6	0	486
Region 2 : Capital Area	47	46	1	221	17	12	0	343
Region 3 : South Central LA	12	19	0	88	10	2	0	132
Region 4 : Acadiana	22	24	0	148	22	7	0	224
Region 5 : Southwest LA	11	10	0	68	9	4	0	102
Region 6 : Central LA	14	23	0	75	10	3	0	125
Region 7 : Northwest LA	28	53	0	153	9	3	0	246
Region 8 : Northeast LA	45	53	0	134	10	12	0	254
Region 9 : Northshore Area	24	26	0	173	13	6	0	243
Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unduplicated Grand Total	233	323	1	1,421	116	55	0	2,155

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 February 2024.

	ACLA	AETNA	Healthy Blue	Humana	LHCC	UHC	TOTALS
Number of CCMs with ASD	1190	220	430	3	753	515	3111
Number of PAs Requested for CCMs with ASD	14	3	18	3	64	36	138
Number of PAs approved for CCMs with ASD	14	3	18	3	64	36	138
Number of PAs denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Claims Paid for CCMs with ASD	\$167,691.90	\$79,322.98	\$239,063.16	\$12,741.94	\$619,148.38	\$479,144.79	\$1,597,113.15
Enrolled Provider Groups	106	144	223	16	139	101	
Total licensed BCBAs	444	862	927	134	779	644	

TABLE GUIDE:

PA = Prior Authorization

CCMs = Chisholm Class Members

ASD = Autism Spectrum Disorder

Louisiana Department of Health

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www.ldh.la.gov



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