



# Adult Foster Care

(Adult Family Care)



# WHAT IS AFC?

- ▶ Adult Foster Care or Adult Family Care is a MassHealth/Medicaid program which offers in home care for members 16 years and older who meet the clinical criteria of the program.
- ▶ AFC provides a residential solution with a primary caregiver either through a qualified family caregiver or a non-related qualified caregiver.
- ▶ Program originally designed for the elder population to keep elders in the community and out of nursing homes. In 2007 the regulations changed allowing families to participate in the program and become care providers for members of their own family as long as they are not the legal guardian.

# Eligibility

- ▶ Must be 16 years or older;
- ▶ Must be eligible for MassHealth; and
- ▶ Must meet the clinical eligibility requiring assistance needed to complete certain activities of daily living.

# Clinical Eligibility

- ▶ Level I
- ▶ Member requires daily physical assistance or cueing and supervision during the task in order for the member complete at least one of the following activities:
  - ▶ (1) bathing (bath or shower)
  - ▶ (2) dressing,
  - ▶ (3) toileting incontinence or scheduled assistance or routine catheter or colostomy care
  - ▶ (4) transferring – member needing to be assisted or lifted to another position
  - ▶ (5) ambulating – member needing to be physically steadied, assisted or guided one to one in ambulation or is unable to self-propel a wheelchair appropriately without the assistance of another person and
  - ▶ (6) eating, if the member requires constant supervision or cueing during the entire meal or physical assistance with a portion or all of the meal. (130CMR 408.417)

# Clinical Eligibility

- ▶ Level II
- ▶ Member requires physical assistance with 3 of the ADL's listed previously or
- ▶ 2 of the ADL's and 1 behavior that requires caregiver intervention such as:
  - Wandering; verbally abusive behavioral symptoms: threatening, screaming, or cursing at others; physically abusive behavioral symptoms: hitting, shoving, or scratching; socially inappropriate or disruptive behavioral symptoms: disruptive sounds, noisiness, screaming, self-abusive acts, disrobing in public, smearing or throwing food or feces, rummaging, repetitive behavior, or causing general disruption; or resisting care. (130 CMR 408.000)

# Benefits

- ▶ The Member can stay living in their home or another qualified setting and both the member and Caregiver receive ongoing support each month from the Charles River Center's team.
- ▶ The Caregiver receives a stipend each month that is reportable but non-taxable.
- ▶ Ongoing training for the Caregiver and Alternate Caregiver
- ▶ Plan of Care designed every six months for members to become more independent and work on customized goals.
- ▶ Community Based Care with more one to one support

# Qualified Setting

- ▶ The home must be qualified by the provider agency – these are some of the required qualifications
- ▶ The home must be a private residence located in Massachusetts
- ▶ The home must be accessible to meet the member's specific needs ie. ramps for people who use wheelchairs or walkers
- ▶ The home must be equipped with safety equipment – some key items include Class ABC fire extinguisher, a First Aid kit, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, appropriate railings
- ▶ The home must show evidence of regular household maintenance

# Caregiver

- ▶ Must be able to provide necessary personal care and to ensure the member's safety and well being at all times and reside in the same home as the member
- ▶ Be at least 18 years old and in good health – must complete a physical examination and receive a TB screening in the last year
- ▶ Must participate in orientation and ongoing training
- ▶ Will receive support and oversight from the Care Manager and the Nurse
- ▶ Must maintain the home setting so it remains a qualified setting
- ▶ Receive a monthly stipend from the provider agency – it is non-taxable income
- ▶ Receive 14 days of respite/alternative care each year



# Interest...

- ▶ To find an AFC provider near you go to:  
[www.massafc.org/providerlist](http://www.massafc.org/providerlist)
- ▶ For more information about the Charles River Centers AFC services contact:  
Yvette Jones at [yjones@charlesrivercenter.org](mailto:yjones@charlesrivercenter.org)  
or at 781-972-1048

