

Money Follows the Person: **Congress Should Act Now**

Money Follows the Person Needs Renewal to Continue Vital Supports

Money Follows the Person (MFP) is an important, now-expired program that helps people with disabilities move out of costly state-run institutions into homes in the community, either on their own or with family members or peers. MFP expired in September 2016 and if the funding is not renewed, most of the 43 states participating in the program will not be able to continue the program. Congress should take action now to renew this program because:

- **MFP has helped over 73,000 people with disabilities and chronic conditions** transition to more independent lives in the community in the past 10 years. These improved outcomes for people with disabilities come at a lower cost to federal and state governments.
- **The program allowed states to remain compliant with federal law**, which mandates supporting the right of people with disabilities to live in the community if they so choose. Specifically, “rebalancing” programs like MFP help states comply with the Supreme Court’s 1999 decision in *Olmstead v. LC*, avoiding costly litigation.
- **MFP creates jobs.** Non-partisan think-tank Mathematica found that MFP increased the employment of Direct Support Professionals.

Participating states are: AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV and DC.



How Can Congress Help?

U.S. Senators Rob Portman (R-OH) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA) have introduced the EMPOWER Care Act (S. 2227) to renew MPF. U.S. Representatives Brett Guthrie (R-KY) and Debbie Dingell (D-MI) have introduced a companion bill, H.R. 5306. Members of Congress can help by co-sponsoring and voting for this legislation.

For More Information:

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