



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

June 16, 2020

AL TSA: NH #2020-040
END OF COMMUNITY HOME PROJECT (CHP)
HOSPITAL SURGE FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Nursing Facility/Home Administrator:

On March 18, 2020, Home and Community Services (HCS) division implemented a statewide emergency plan focused on the need to expedite transition of individuals who are functionally eligible for long-term services and supports (LTSS) out of hospital care to all long-term care setting types (also referred to as “surge period”). This statewide effort, called the Community Home Project, was a successful approach to expedite transitions from inpatient to nursing facilities and other home and community-based settings and succeeded in the following objectives:

- Significantly reduce the time it takes to complete assessments from the date of referral for LTSS
- Significantly reduce the length of stay for individuals referred to HCS, and
- Increase number of transitions out of acute care hospitals into LTSS settings.

Nursing facilities are playing an important role in this effort and these goals could not have been accomplished without your willingness and support. As we are looking to wind down the Community Home Project exceptional rate approvals, it is important to reach out and acknowledge that your partnership is appreciated and that we look forward to continued collaboration as we serve our respective community’s residents together.

So what happens next?

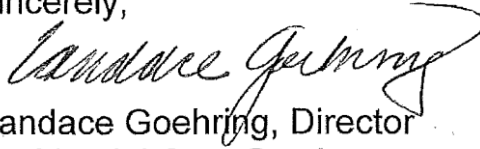
- Home and Community Services will continue to approve Community Home Project exceptional rates for those individuals who are Medicare and Medicaid eligible and who are currently hospitalized and transition to a nursing facility on or before June 18, 2020.
- The Community Home Project approval letters are client specific, the exceptional rate must be approved prior to the dually eligible individual’s admission to the nursing facility and the approval for the exceptional rate is limited to 180 days after admission.
- For those residents who have already admitted with a Community Home Project approval, they are assigned to Home and Community Services Nursing Facility Case Managers. These specialized case managers are actively working with the resident and Nursing Facility staff to coordinate transition planning to less restrictive Community Home settings.

Dear NH Administrator: End of CHP
June 16, 2020
Page 2

This project has forged communication pathways that are welcomed and we hope can continue. Thank you for your ongoing collaboration in serving Medicaid residents as they transition through these different systems of care and your willingness to assist in this effort and continued partnership to transition clients from acute hospital settings.

If you have any questions, please contact Julie Cope, System Change Specialist (HCS) at (360) 725-2529 or Julie.Cope@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Candace Goehring". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Candace Goehring, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Transforming Lives"