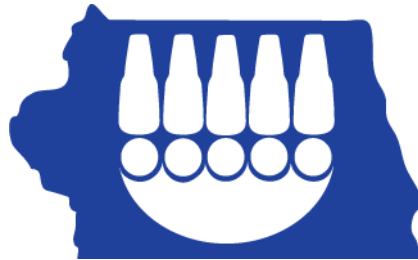


[dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/mfp](https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/mfp)



# **Living In Communities of Your Choice**

*A program that helps pave the way.*

# ***You have some new choices***



## ***about how and where you live***

Many Iowans with disabilities (intellectual disability or brain injury) qualify to receive special services to help support greater independence in the community.

If you—or your loved one—have lived for at least three months in an Intermediate Care Facility for people with intellectual disability (ICF/ID) or a nursing facility—and if you are Medicaid-eligible...then you are invited to consider Iowa's Partnership for Community Integration Money Follows the Person Program

(MFP) It makes services and supports available to help you enjoy living "on your own."

This program can help you move into your own home or apartment...in the community of your choice.

You can receive financial and personal help in setting up your new home, finding a job or other daytime activities you want to take part in and learning the daily skills you need in order to live independently.



## **YOU ARE IN CONTROL**

The choice to participate in this program is entirely up to you. No one is making you leave the place you live now. At each step in the process of moving toward independent living, you have the choice whether or not to continue. You Decide!



## **YOU CAN GET MANY KINDS OF SUPPORT.**

To make sure you feel comfortable and safe throughout the process, you will get help from a Transition Specialist in putting your planning team together, and making sure things happen as they should. The Transition Specialist is hired and trained by the Iowa Department of Human Services to help you develop your transition plan and find high-quality services.

Your transition Specialist can help your planning team find a place for you to live, identify service providers in your community, pick roommates, get help with rent and look for jobs.

If it is needed, there's also help for things like home and vehicle modifications, medical equipment—even clothing for you to wear to work.

## **YOU HAVE YOUR OWN PLANNING TEAM.**

Moving toward independent living is a big change, and it takes planning and teamwork to make each step you take a success.

That's why, when you take part in MFP, you will have your own planning team to help you. Who will be on your team? It's totally up to you.

However, a successful planning team should probably include:

- ▶ a family member or friend you trust
- ▶ a trusted worker from your ICF/ID or nursing facility
- ▶ a community-based case manager
- ▶ anyone else you want to include on your planning team



The program pays the cost of setting up your new home: one-time only expenses, such as deposits for rent or utilities, household supplies and other supports to make sure your move to independent living is successful.

For those who need help with monthly rent, you will get help applying for rental assistance.



## **SUPPORT CONTINUES FOR AS LONG AS YOU NEED IT**

The first 365 days following your move to independent living is called the demonstration year.

During this year, your progress will be followed closely to make sure you are doing well in your new living situation.

MFP can also cover the costs for special assistance, such as mental health services if needed.

## **MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE**

This brochure was designed to provide a brief outline of the Partnership for Community Integration Money Follows the Person program and the many services that are available.

There are many more details you'll want to think about as you learn about the program and decide if it is right for you.

What's the next step? Talk to your ICF/ID or nursing facility service coordinator. Or go to [dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/mfp](https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/mfp) for more information.

The Money Follows the Person program was created to help participants make a successful transition to independent living. The support of families and others that care about you is important in the process. If the decision is made to move toward independent living, the Department of Human Services is committed to helping participants and their families make the best decisions for their own individual circumstances.