

# AGING STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT PROJECT

## State Profile for

# NEW JERSEY

## Home- and Community-based Services for Older Adults and Adults with Physical Disabilities

### Background

- New Jersey's 60+ population was 1,591,554 in 2008 (18.3% of the state's total population), with 8% below the federal poverty level.<sup>1</sup>
- The 60+ population is projected to be 2,364,545 in 2025 (24.5% of the state's total population).<sup>2</sup>
- About 25% of all households in 2007 had one or more persons age 65 years and older and 35.4% of persons age 65 years and older had a disability.<sup>3</sup>
- Of the 949,741 Medicaid beneficiaries in the state in 2003, 9.1% were aged, 17.2% were blind and disabled, 18.6% were Dual Eligible, and 2.0% were HCBS waiver beneficiaries.<sup>4</sup>
- Medicaid expenditures for institutional long-term care were 70.4% of total long-term-care expenditures, compared to 29.6% for HCBS in fiscal year 2007.<sup>5</sup>

#### Abbreviations

AAA	Area Agency on Aging
ADL	Activities of Daily Living
AoA	Administration on Aging
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
HCBS	Home- and Community-based Services
IADL	Instrumental Activities of Daily Living
MRDD	Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities
OAA	Older Americans Act
PACE	Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly
SUA	State Unit on Aging

<sup>1</sup> Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging. (2009). *AGing Integrated Database (AGID): American Community Survey (ACS) demographic data 2004-2007 and state-level population estimates data 2000-2008* [Data files]. Available from <http://198.136.163.234/default.asp>

<sup>2</sup> Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging. (2009). *AGing statistics: Projected future growth of the Older population; By state: 2005-2030; Aged 60 and above* [Data files]. Available from [http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Aging\\_Statistics/future\\_growth/future\\_growth.aspx](http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Aging_Statistics/future_growth/future_growth.aspx).

<sup>3</sup> Reimbursement and Research Department, American Health Care Association. (2006, August 29). *The state long-term health care sector 2005: Characteristics, utilization, and government funding*. Washington, DC: Author.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey, United States and States. *Percent of households with one or more people 65 years and over (R1104) and Percent of people 65 years and over with a disability (R1803)*.

<sup>5</sup> Burwell, B., Sredl, K., & Eiken. S. (2008, September 26). *Medicaid long term care expenditures FY 2007*. Eagan, MN: Thomson Reuters.

### Government Structure to Manage HCBS

- **SUA:** Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of Aging and Community Services.  
[www.state.nj.us/health/senior/index.shtml](http://www.state.nj.us/health/senior/index.shtml)
- **State Medicaid Agency:** Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services.  
[www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/dhsmed.html](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/dhsmed.html)
- New Jersey does not have a consolidated agency for long-term-care programs, which are handled by several agencies. Divisions of Senior Affairs (SUA) and Consumer Support (Medicaid Waiver and Long-Term Care Services) were consolidated into the Division of Aging and Community Services in 2002. The other agencies that handle long-term-care policy, services, regulation and quality oversight are: Department of Health and Senior Services and the Department of Human Services as the single state agency for Medicaid.
- The director of New Jersey's SUA reports to the Assistant Commissioner, who reports to the Deputy Commissioner, who reports to the Commissioner, who in turn reports to the Governor.
- New Jersey has 21 Area Agencies on Aging.

### Single Point of Entry (SPE)/Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

- New Jersey has an ADRC that is not statewide.
- All ADRC sites have a physical (bricks and mortar) infrastructure; all ADRC sites operate under a virtual model.
- In addition to serving older adults, New Jersey's ADRC serves physically disabled persons.
- Atlantic and Warren counties each have an ADRC. There are five more counties with preliminary set-ups that are awaiting technology to become fully functional. Critical elements include a planning committee of key stakeholders, including Centers for Independent Living, and county investments in management information systems. The state is committed to continuous

quality improvement and performance management, consumer participation and self-direction.

### Assessment Process

#### Medicaid

- For Medicaid applicants, in determining functional eligibility for nursing home pre-admission, New Jersey requires an in-person assessment by someone other than nursing home staff. The assessment is conducted by the Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of Aging and Community Services, and by the county. In-person assessment is done by county staff or by state-employed nurses, and approved by state staff at the Department of Health and Senior Services.

#### Non-Medicaid

- For non-Medicaid applicants in New Jersey, nursing home pre-admission assessment is performed by someone other than nursing home staff. The assessment is conducted by the Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of Aging and Community Services, and by the county. In-person assessment is done by county staff or state-employed nurses, and approved by state staff at the Department of Health and Senior Services. The assessment must be done in-person for all nursing home applicants.

### State Medicaid Plan

- New Jersey provides HCBS through the state Medicaid plan.
- Refer to Table 1 for specific services provided.
- State plan HCBS can be used by individuals age 21+ with nursing home level-of-care need. The assessment for these services is done at the same time as the assessment for the available Medicaid waivers and OAA services. It is based on the Minimum Data Set (MDS) home care assessment, and then sent to the SUA.
- **PACE:** New Jersey has one PACE site. This site is in the planning stage with four more PACE sites proposed.

### Medicaid Waivers\*

- New Jersey has three waivers\* that provide HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.

These are: Caregiver Assistance Program, Community Care for the Elderly and Disabled, and Enhanced Community Options.

- **Caregiver Assistance Program:** The program primarily serves adults 65 years and older and also 21-64-year-old disabled persons (as determined by Supplemental Security Income [SSI] or New Jersey Department of Health Services). The income and asset limits for individuals are \$867 and \$1,911; for a couple, they are \$2,000 and \$4,000, respectively. Cost caps are applied to specific services as well as to the cost per person per month, with a maximum of \$1,000 monthly or \$12,000 annually. The service package is based on the needs of the participants. There is a consumer option to choose services, service providers and aides from providers that best fit participants' needs. All providers must be Medicaid-approved or approved to provide waiver services as a non-traditional (i.e., non-Medicaid) provider. Participants can choose a participant-employed provider, an individual not employed by an agency, for four services: home-based supportive care, transportation, chore services and attendant care.
- **Community Care for the Elderly and Disabled:** The program serves persons 21 years and older with a nursing home level-of-care need. The income and asset limits for individuals are \$1,911 and \$2,000, respectively. There is a consumer option to choose services, service providers and aides from providers that best fit participants' needs. All providers must be Medicaid-approved or be approved to provide waiver services as a non-traditional, (i.e., non-Medicaid) provider. Participants can choose a participant-employed provider, an individual not employed by an agency, for four services: home-based supportive care, transportation, chore services and attendant care.
- **Enhanced Community Options:** The program primarily serves adults 65 years and older and also those age 21-64 with a disability. The availability of services is determined by the number of vacancies in the provider facilities and Medicaid waiver slots. Assisted living residences and comprehensive personal care homes are licensed by the state and provide the services. There is a consumer option to choose services, service providers and aides from providers that best fit

participants' needs. All providers must be Medicaid-approved or be approved to provide waiver services as a non-traditional (i.e., non-Medicaid) provider. Participants can choose a participant-employed provider, an individual not employed by an agency, for four services: home-based supportive care, transportation, chore services and attendant care.

- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered under each program.

\* *Since reporting this information, New Jersey has obtained a Global 1115 Waiver that eliminates all the above-mentioned Medicaid waivers and combines them into one program.*

## CMS-funded Programs and Grants

- New Jersey has one CMS-funded program and grant that provides HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. The program is: Money Follows the Person.
- **Money Follows the Person (MFP):** The program, which serves individuals 21 and over, is being rolled into a Global Options 1115 waiver. Waiver slots are being used by MFP participants. This program is also called GO NHT (Global Options Nursing Home Transition).
- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered.

## State-funded HCBS Programs

- New Jersey has one state-funded program that provides HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. The name of this program is Jersey Assistance for Community Caregiving (JACC).
- **Jersey Assistance for Community Caregiving:** This program serves people age 60 and older, clinically eligible for nursing home care, US citizens or qualified aliens ineligible for Medicaid and/or waivers, with income up to 365% of the federal poverty level (FPL) and assets below \$40,000 for an individual or \$60,000 for a couple. Cost caps are applied to specific services under JACC as well as to the cost per person per

month; JACC services are limited to a maximum of \$600 per month or \$7,200 annually. The service package provided is based on an assessment of the individual's needs, unique care plan, and availability of services and funding. Services can be provided by provider agencies or by participant-employed providers. Co-pays for services are based on countable income and a sliding scale. There is a consumer option to choose services, service providers and aides from providers that best fit participants' needs. All providers must be Medicaid-approved or approved to provide waiver services as a non-traditional (i.e., non-Medicaid) provider. Participants can choose a participant-employed provider, an individual not employed by an agency, for four services: home-based supportive care, transportation, chore services and attendant care.

- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered.

### Locally Funded HCBS Programs

- New Jersey uses local funds for HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.

### OAA-funded Programs and Grants

- New Jersey does not use cost-sharing mechanisms or sliding fee scales in the delivery of Title III services.
- Refer to Table 1 for services provided through Title III of the OAA.
- New Jersey has three OAA-funded programs and grants that provide HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. These are: Nursing Home Diversion; Empowering – Nutrition; and Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Grant.

### Social Service Block Grants (SSBG) and Community Service Block Grants (CSBG) for HCBS

- New Jersey uses SSBG to provide HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.

- These funds are combined with local funds and Title III funds at the AAA level.
- New Jersey does not use CSBG to provide HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.

### Consumer Direction

- New Jersey offers consumer-directed options. The HCBS programs in the state that offer consumer direction are: Caregiver Assistance Program, Community Care for the Elderly and Disabled, Enhanced Community Options, Money Follows the Person, and Jersey Assistance for Community Caregiving.
- Models of consumer direction available in the state include: a Cash and Counseling grant in the Department of Human Services and another model that includes Client Employee Provider as an option under the waivers.
- Those permitted to provide services under consumer direction in the New Jersey are: provider agencies, spouses, adult children of the consumer, other family, and friends.
- Currently, New Jersey is rolling out consumer direction state-wide, using the ADRC model for all services in the state, including those using OAA funds. Consumer direction is going to be available in all programs.
- New Jersey uses two fiscal intermediary services in connection with consumer direction.

### Managed Care

- New Jersey does not have HCBS programs run by managed care health plans.

### Major Accomplishments and Initiatives

- Effective in January 2009, all waivers will be consolidated into a Global Options 1115c waiver demonstration.

**Table 1: Types of Home- and Community-based Services Provided Under New Jersey's Programs for Older Adults and Adults with Physical Disabilities**

Types of Services	Program Type / Funding Source						
	Medicaid Waivers			CMS-funded Programs and Grants	State-funded Programs	State Medicaid Plan	OAA Title III
	Caregiver Assistance Program	Community Care for the Elderly and Disabled	Enhanced Community Options	Money Follows the Person - GO NHT	Jersey Assistance for Community Caregiving (JACC)		
Adult Day Care / Adult Day Health	X	X		X	X	X	X
Assisted Living			X	X			
Caregiver Services / Respite / Education	X	X		X	X		
Case Management / Care Coordination		X			X		X
Chore / Homemaking	X	X	X	X	X		X
Companion Services / Socialization Activities			X				
Employment							
Equipment / Supplies / Modifications / Assistive Technology	X			X	X		
Health Promotion Activities			X				
Home Health / Personal Care	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Information / Assistance / Referral							X
Legal Assistance / Financial Advice							X
Medical / Dental / Medication Care		X					
Mental and Behavioral Health Services						X	
Nursing			X				
Nutrition / Meals	X	X		X	X		X
Personal Supports for Community Living / Transitioning	X			X	X		
Rehabilitation / Therapy							
Residential Services				X			X
Transportation	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Other/Unspecified HCBS				X			

Table 2: Selected HCBS Programs for Older Adults and Adults with Physical Disabilities in New Jersey

Program Type / Funding Source	Program Name	Ages Served	Nursing Home Level of Care Required	Entity Responsible for Functional Assessment	Entity Responsible for Financial Assessment	Entity Responsible for Case Management	Waiting List (Number)	Consumer Direction Option
Medicaid Waivers	Caregiver Assistance Program	65+ or 21-64 with a disability	Yes	State agency: Department of Health & Senior Services, Division of Aging & Community Services; County	State agency: County welfare agencies of the Department of Human Services	County AAA or subcontracted vendors	No	Yes
	Community Care for the Elderly and Disabled	21+	Yes	State agency: Department of Health & Senior Services, Division of Aging & Community Services; County	State agency: County welfare agencies of the Department of Human Services	Center for Independent Living; County; Non-profit (other than AAA or CIL)	No	Yes
	Enhanced Community Options	65+ or 21-64 with a disability	Yes	State agency: Department of Health & Senior Services, Division of Aging & Community Services; County	State agency: County welfare agencies of the Department of Human Services	County AAA or subcontracted vendors	No	Yes
CMS-funded Programs and Grants	Money Follows the Person - GO NHT	21+	Yes	State agency: Department of Health & Senior Services, Division of Aging & Community Services; County	Center for Independent Living	Area Agency on Aging; CIL; County; Non-profit (not AAA or CIL); Subcontracted vendors	No	Yes
State-funded Programs	Jersey Assistance for Community Caregiving (JACC)	60+	Yes	County/Parish	State Agency: Department of Health & Senior Services, Division of Aging & Community Services	County	Yes (532)	Yes