



## COMMUNITY HEALTH CHOICES UPDATE

### What You Need to Know about the Statewide Transition Plan

Community HealthChoices (CHC) is Pennsylvania's **mandatory** managed care program for Medical Assistance. CHC uses health insurance plans called "managed Care Organizations" (MCOs) to give people benefits.

#### Who is eligible for Community HealthChoices?

### THE CHC POPULATION IS ESSENTIALLY TWO POPULATIONS:

#### 1. DUAL-ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Individuals enrolled in both Medicare and Medical Assistance.

#### 2. PARTICIPANTS NEEDING LTSS SERVICES

Individuals who qualify for Medical Assistance long-term services and supports (LTSS) due to a need for the level of care provided by a nursing facility. Participants receiving LTSS at home through a waiver program or reside in a nursing facility. They may also be enrolled in both Medicare and Medical Assistance.

Above includes individuals that are dual eligible. Dual eligible means that a person is eligible for both Medical Assistance and Medicare. Medicaid (Medical Assistance) is a State Program and Medicare is a Federal Program. When dual eligible with Medicare as the primary insurance, Medical Assistance is your supplement. It covers costs that Medicare doesn't.



#### What happened to Access?

Access is the card you use to get Medicaid (State Medical Assistance Benefits). Medicaid is health insurance that covers medical care like: doctor visits, mental health, medicine and hospital care.



If you are dual eligible; Medicare will still be your main health insurance. Community Health Choices does not change your Medicare at all

To enroll in CHC you **do not** need to change any of the providers that you have now. As long as your doctors accept Medicare and Medicaid, your CHC plan has to pay any leftover costs. All of your providers, such as your UDS Service Coordinator, will be part of the 180 day continuity of care period. CHC does not replace or take away Behavioral Health MCOs.

**Why the change to Managed Care?** To do a better job of coordinating health and long-term care to keep you healthy and independent

#### What will Your CHC Plan Do?

1. Help you stay well: Manage chronic health conditions

2. Get long-term care: Arrange for home based services & supports
3. Coordinate care: with your Medicare, doctors, specialists

People who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid can change their Medicare and/or CHC plan anytime during the year.

CHC rolled out in the southwest region on January 1, 2018. The commonwealth has decided to shift the implementation dates for the next two phases of CHC. The new start dates are as follows:

- Phase 2 will now begin on January 1, 2019
- Phase 3 will now begin on January 1, 2020



People in **Phase 2** will have to select a plan by **November 15, 2018**. If you don't choose a plan, the state will choose for you.

How Do I choose a Plan? Things to consider if you get Long-Term Services (Waiver Program)

1. Which agencies help me get services now?
2. Are they in network? After the 180 day Continuity of Care Period you have to decide who it's most important to keep, if your CHC plan does not contract with one of your providers (such as Service Coordinators or In Home Services.) Or...Change to One that Includes Your Providers

**Please speak with your Service Coordinator to help with obtaining more information. UDS wants to help each of its participants to make an informed decision. We want to work with you to help you attain the information you need to do so.**

How do I enroll? It is through the Independent Enrollment Broker 1-844-824-3655 or [EnrollCHC.com](http://EnrollCHC.com)

**Important Dates for Phase 2** (Those living in the Southeast Region). *Montgomery, Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Philadelphia Counties.*

- November 15<sup>th</sup> -Choose your plan
- December 20<sup>th</sup> – If you are auto-enrolled or change your mind you can switch by Dec 20<sup>th</sup>
- January 1<sup>st</sup>: - After Jan 1<sup>st</sup> change during first 15 days of month so new plan starts right away (day 1 of next month)

\*For more information call your Service Coordinator or visit [www.dhs.pa.gov](http://www.dhs.pa.gov). For fast and efficient communication, please send your email to us at: [ADVOCATE@udservices.org](mailto:ADVOCATE@udservices.org)