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CCT GL #15-008

DATE: December 30, 2015
TO: CCT Program Director
SUBJECT: California Community Transitions (CCT) Housing Policy

PURPOSE

This CCT Guidance Letter (GL) provides CCT Lead Organizations (LOs) with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance on Money Follows the Person (MFP)¹ requirements for qualified housing.

BACKGROUND

To ensure CCT/MFP Participants move into safe and sustainable community-based housing upon discharge from a long-term facility, CMS established three categories of “qualified residences” under the MFP Rebalancing Demonstration, codified in Section 6071(h) of the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005. In order to “count” as a CCT/MFP transition, providers of transition coordination and care planning services are required to secure community-based housing that fulfills the requirements within the DRA.

Finding affordable and accessible housing has been the single greatest barrier to transitions since the beginning of the Demonstration. As MFP grantees across the nation struggled to find solutions to the housing shortage, CMS issued additional guidance to clarify the requirements for each category of qualified housing (See Attachments).

The three categories of qualified housing are:

- (A) A home owned or leased by the individual or the individual's family member;
- (B) An apartment with an individual lease, with lockable access and egress, and

¹ The federal Money Follows the Person (MFP) Rebalancing Demonstration is known as CCT in California.

which includes living, sleeping, bathing, and cooking areas over which the individual or the individual's family has domain and control; and

(C) A residence, in a community-based residential setting, in which no more than 4 unrelated individuals reside.

GUIDANCE

The additional guidance provided by CMS helps clarify requirements for each category of qualified housing.

The three attachments to this GL include comprehensive guidance on qualified housing requirements. The attachments include:

Attachment 1 Original Statute from the DRA of 2005

Attachment 2 CMS Policy Guidance on Qualified Housing, issued in 2008

Attachment 3 Grant Application Guidance to further clarify the requirements issued in 2005 and 2008

QUESTIONS

For further questions about this GL, please contact Urshella Starr, at (916) 455-0381, or by e-mail at: urshella.starr@dhcs.ca.gov

Sincerely,

(Originally signed by)

Rebecca Schupp, Chief
Long-Term Care Division