



Executive Office of Health and Human Services
74 West Road
Hazard Building #74
Cranston, RI 02920

MEMORANDUM

TO: Nursing Home Administrators

FROM: EOHHS

DATE: January 7, 2014

RE: Integrated Care Initiative Clarification

As you are aware EOHHS is sending out letters to eligible individuals to offer them a choice of programs to enroll in for the Integrated Care Initiative. Individuals have two new options, Connect Care Choice Community Partners (through CareLink) or Rhody Health Options (through Neighborhood Health Plan of RI). In addition to the two new programs, individuals who qualify can chose PACE or Medicaid fee-for service. The new programs are voluntary and individuals may switch to a different option if they are not satisfied with the program selected.

This memorandum is to clarify the process that individuals residing in a nursing home must use to switch programs. Only nursing home residents and/or their family member may make a choice of which program to enroll into or disenroll from. If a nursing home resident has someone that acts as their health care proxy or has power of attorney, that individual can act on the individual's behalf. Providers and staff who work at the nursing home cannot legally and should not make this decision for residents. (Please see State law regarding power of attorney at: <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/statutes/TITLE23/23-4.10/23-4.10-2.HTM>).

For individuals that do not have family member, a health care proxy, power of attorney and/or are cognitively impaired and cannot make the decision about enrollment, the services of the Long Term Care Ombudsman (401-785-3340) should be accessed.

EOHHS has set up an Enrollment Helpline (1-855-444-3604) for individual's questions and to facilitate switching programs. Additionally, if individuals or family members require additional detail they can request the Enrollment Helpline refer them to an EOHHS staff member.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. For more information on the Integrated Care Initiative, please see our website at www.eohhs.ri.gov under Integrated Care>For Stakeholders.