

Metrowest Aging & Disability Resource Consortium

Program Long Term Care Options Counseling

Subject Program Goals

1. Support the Commonwealth's "Community First" policy. The Community First policy is, "to give elders and people with disabilities (consumers) more information about the availability of long term care services and supports so that consumers can make informed choices about services and settings that would best meet their needs".
2. Support the Commonwealth in its efforts to implement Chapter 211 of the Acts of 2006 ("Equal Choice" legislation) which states that, "A person seeking admission to a long term care facility paid for by MassHealth shall receive pre-admission counseling for long term care services, which shall include an assessment of community based service options. A person seeking care in a long term care facility on a private pay basis shall be offered pre-admission counseling".
3. Assist individuals in need of LTC services to make informed choices about settings and services, as well as about resources to help pay for supports and services; to assist in making referrals to experts about the individual's particular disability; and provide assistance in connecting with appropriate resources. This is done by:
 - a. Providing unbiased information to consumers about long term care options,
 - b. Supporting consumers in their decision-making process.
4. Assist individuals in need of LTC services in a manner than ensures the consumer's personal goals, preferences, and values are honored.
5. Assist individuals in need of LTC services to remain living in the community by:

- a. diverting admissions into any institutional setting, including nursing homes,
- b. delaying entry into any institutional setting, including nursing homes,
- c. transitioning back to community living anyone currently living in any institutional setting, including nursing homes.