

To:  
All Providers  
HMOs and Other  
Managed Care  
Programs

## Wisconsin Partnership Program Expands to Kenosha County

Effective February 1, 2007, the Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP) will expand to Kenosha County. The Wisconsin Partnership Program may offer alternatives to long-term nursing home or hospital-based care for elderly and disabled recipients who meet the program's eligibility criteria.

Primary care physicians who would like to refer a patient for participation in the WPP but would still like to keep the individual as their patient may do so by becoming a part of the Partnership provider network.

### **Wisconsin Partnership Program Expands to Kenosha County**

The Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP) will expand to Kenosha County on February 1, 2007. The Department of Health and Family Services will contract with Community Care Health Plan (CCHP) to serve recipients age 55 and older who have long term care needs. Providers may contact CCHP at (414) 902-2317.

### **Wisconsin Partnership Program Overview**

The WPP is a managed care program jointly funded by Wisconsin Medicaid and Medicare. The program integrates health care and long term care. Health care includes primary and acute care, and long term care includes

community-based services and institutional care, if needed.

Primary care physicians who would like to refer a patient for participation in the WPP but would still like to keep the individual as their patient may do so by becoming a part of the Partnership provider network.

To provide and manage care for its members, each Partnership Program develops a network of providers under contract with or employed by the program. As the sole payment source for WPP services, they provide their own service authorizations. Before providing to WPP members, providers should contact the organization to make arrangements. For information about becoming a part of the Partnership provider network, call the CCHP at (414) 902-2317. Refer to the Attachment of this *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* for information on all WPP locations.

Those who participate in the WPP (hereafter referred to as "participants") benefit from an individualized care plan developed by their care team. The care team also coordinates the services needed by the participant.

At a minimum, the care team consists of the following individuals:

- The participant.

- A primary care physician.
- A nurse practitioner.
- A registered nurse (RN).
- A social worker.

The care team may also include close friends or family members chosen by the participant.

### Benefits and Eligibility Requirements

Individuals who may benefit most from enrolling in the WPP are those with chronic health conditions who need support to live as independently as they would like.

To qualify for enrollment in the WPP, individuals must be the following:

- Medicaid recipients. (Some people become Medicaid recipients when they enroll in the WPP.)
- In need of a Medicaid-reimbursable nursing home level of care.
- Residents of Kenosha County.
- At least 55 years of age or older.

Some of the benefits of the WPP include the following:

- The program manages all aspects of the participant's health and long term care.
- The participant's nurse practitioner, RN, or social worker (from the participant's care team) acts as the first point of contact for the participant, 24 hours per day, seven days per week. This reduces telephone calls to the primary care or on-call physician.
- The participant's nurse practitioner visits the primary care physician with the participant.
- The participant's nurse practitioner or RN visits the participant at home.
- The participant's nurse practitioner and RN work with the participant and the pharmacy to assist with medication compliance.

- Members of the participant's care team visit the participant in the nursing home or hospital, if necessary (for example, if a participant breaks his or her hip), and coordinate discharge and post-institutional care with discharge planners.

### The Role of Aging and Disability Resource Centers

Local Aging and Disability Resource Centers help individuals to "one-stop shop" for long term care information. Resource Center services are not limited to Medicaid-eligible individuals; anyone may receive services from a Resource Center.

The primary functions of the Resource Centers are to do following:

- Provide prevention and early intervention activities and community outreach services to help people maintain their independence.
- Offer counseling about options for obtaining long term care services.
- Help people apply for government program benefits, including Medicaid.
- Offer Pre-Admission Consultation (PAC) to provide individuals with information and counseling about available long term care options before they make choices regarding their care. As part of the PAC process, nursing homes, community-based residential facilities, adult family homes, residential care apartment complexes, and hospitals are required to refer individuals with long term care needs to Resource Centers.
- Determine functional eligibility for WPP. (The county economic support unit determines financial eligibility. Refer to the Wisconsin Medicaid Managed Care Web site at [dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid7/index.htm](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid7/index.htm) or [dhfs.wisconsin.gov/WIpartnership/index.htm](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/WIpartnership/index.htm).

Individuals who may benefit most from enrolling in the WPP are those with chronic health conditions who need support to live as independently as they would like.

- Offer assistance to individuals who want to enroll in Wisconsin Partnership.

### **The Role of County Economic Support Units**

After the Resource Center has administered a Long Term Care Functional Screen to determine functional eligibility criteria, the county economic support unit determines eligibility for Wisconsin Partnership.

### **For More Information**

For more information on Managed Care programs for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and SSI-related recipients, refer to the following *Updates*:

- December 2006 *Update* (2006-96), titled “Supplemental Security Income Managed Care Program Expansion.”
- January 2007 *Update* (2007-02), titled “Family Care Expands to Racine and Kenosha Counties.”

More information on the WPP and Family Care is available on the Medicaid Web site at [dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/).

The *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Although the *Update* refers to Medicaid recipients, all information applies to BadgerCare recipients also.

Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare are administered by the Division of Health Care Financing, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, P.O. Box 309, Madison, WI 53701-0309.

For questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883 or visit our Web site at [dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/).

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# ATTACHMENT

## Wisconsin Partnership Program Locations

The following table lists the locations of the Wisconsin Partnership Program.

<b>Wisconsin Partnership Program Sites</b>
<p><b>Elder Care of Wisconsin</b>            Madison, Wisconsin            Enrolls adults age 55 and older who reside in Dane County.            (608) 240-0020</p>
<p><b>Community Living Alliance</b>            Madison, Wisconsin            Enrolls people with physical disabilities age 18 through 64 who reside in Dane County.            (608) 242-8335</p>
<p><b>Community Care for the Elderly</b>            Milwaukee, Wisconsin            Enrolls adults age 55 and older who reside in Milwaukee or Racine County.            (414) 385-6600</p>
<p><b>Community Health Partnership, Inc.</b>            Eau Claire, Wisconsin            Enrolls adults age 55 and older and people with physical disabilities ages 18 through 64 who reside in Eau Claire, Dunn, or Chippewa County.            (715) 838-2900</p>
<p><b>Community Care Health Plan (CCHP)</b>            Kenosha, Wisconsin            Enrolls recipients age 55 and older who have long term care needs.            (414) 902-2317</p>