Personal Preference Program (PPP)

PPP offers an alternate way for individuals to receive their Medicaid Personal Care Assistant (PCA) services. Using the “Cash & Counseling” model, with the philosophy of “consumer direction,” this program allows elderly and disabled Medicaid recipients to direct, and manage, their Medicaid PCA services. PPP provides an alternative to traditional PCA agency services and allows the individual greater control of the services they receive.

Using a monthly allowance, program participants work with a consultant to develop a Cash Management Plan (CMP) that is used to identify the services needed and the individuals/agencies they want to hire to provide the services. If a participant is cognitively impaired or is unable to make decisions on their own, a representative can assist them.

This program also provides fiscal management services to assist consumers with the financial aspects of the program. Fiscal management includes handling payroll responsibilities for participants, acting as a bookkeeping service, processing timesheets, and issuing paychecks to the participant’s workers.

PPP requires greater individual responsibility but, in return, offers participants greater control, flexibility and choice over the services they receive.

The Personal Preference Program allows the consumer to:

- Choose home care services they want;
- Hire workers, people they know/trust including relatives, friends and neighbors;
- Schedule services to meet their needs;
- Exercise greater control over their lives.

Possible additional uses of the monthly allowance include:

- Purchasing services from an agency;
- Making home modification that increases ones ability to live more independently (i.e., ramp or chair-lift); and,
- Purchasing equipment, appliances, technology or other items that increase independence, (i.e., microwave oven or washing machine).

Eligibility Criteria includes:

- NJ Medicaid eligible with coverage of personal care
- Individuals now receiving or who are eligible to receive Medicaid PCA Services from agencies
- Individuals must also have the ability to direct and manage services or elect a representative that can assist with the program

Program Partners
Benefits of Participating:

The program allows the participant or their representative to individually decide what services are most appropriate for their individual needs. Participants having various disabilities can select services that fit their unique situations, which increase their decision-making power regarding their daily life.

How to Apply:

Interested Medicaid recipients should contact their Medicaid Managed Care Organization Care Manager, to start the enrollment process. Care Managers will complete an initial enrollment packet and will forward it with a referral to the Personal Preference Program.

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