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**Vaya Health Launches Statewide Money Follows the Person (MFP)  
Demonstration Project**

**ASHEVILLE, NC** - In January 2024, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS or Department) asked organizations across North Carolina for proposals to partner with them on a statewide Money Follows the Person (MFP) project. NCDHHS selected Vaya Health from a number of applicants. With the Department, Vaya is launching the federally funded demonstration project for transition coordination services Sept. 18.

With Vaya's launch of the MFP project statewide, qualifying NC Medicaid beneficiaries living in long-term care facilities can explore opportunities to transition from institutional settings into their communities. The MFP project helps older adults and adults with physical disabilities in all 100 North Carolina counties move into their own homes and communities with supports.

"We are excited to launch this program statewide and help people living in long-term care facilities who want to find out more about this important opportunity to live in the least restrictive setting," said Celeste Ordiway, Vice President of Transition and Housing for Vaya. "Vaya is committed to helping people live the life they choose, and providing the support for those who want to transition from an institution to the community is a great way we can change lives across the state."

Details on eligibility and applications are available online [through Vaya's website](#). In addition, Vaya will engage in outreach and education efforts with potential MFP participants, family members, individuals, and organizations connected to the transition process, as well as stakeholders throughout the state.

The program focuses on empowering independence and enhancing quality of life for individuals transitioning from institutional settings back into their communities. By providing support and resources, Vaya's aim is to:

- **Promote Independence:** Help participants live independently in their own homes or community-based settings

- **Enhance Quality of Life:** Improve overall quality of life for participants by helping them live in a more integrated and less restrictive environment
- **Facilitate Community Integration:** Help participants become active and involved in their communities
- **Ensure Long-Term Success:** Provide ongoing support and follow-up services to ensure participants remain successful in their new living arrangements
- **Reduce Institutionalization:** Decrease reliance on institutional care by making community-based living a viable and sustainable option

### **About Vaya Health**

Vaya Health is a specialty managed care organization that oversees publicly funded health plans across a 32-county region of North Carolina for people with serious mental health conditions, severe substance use disorders, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and traumatic brain injuries. This contract expands Vaya's service area to all 100 North Carolina counties to support MFP eligible older adults and adults with physical disabilities. Vaya manages Medicaid, federal, state, and local funding to meet member and community needs while advancing whole-person health. Together with members, providers, and local partners, we're moving forward to a healthier North Carolina.

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