Introduction to the Medicaid Transformation Project

This section will provide a brief overview of the 1115 Medicaid Transformation demonstration waiver often referred to as Medicaid Transformation Project (MTP) or MTP 2.0. Throughout this chapter it will be referred to as "MTP". The primary focus in the chapter is on the Older and aging adults and family caregivers provision and the Housing & Employment provisions of MTP.

Ask the Expert

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WHAT IS MTP?

MTP or Medicaid Transformation Project (aka MTP 2.0) is a five-year 1115 demonstration waiver with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that provides up to $1.1 billion federal investment. This funding is not a grant. The 1115 waiver allows the state to "waive" certain Medicaid requirements to test innovative, sustainable and systematic changes that will help improve the overall health of Washingtonians. During the five years of the waiver, the state must demonstrate that it will not spend more federal dollars on its Medicaid program than it would have spent without the waiver.

MTP 2.0 is part of the Health Care Authority's (HCA) Healthier Washington Initiative. Over the next five years, the goals of the project are to:

- Expand coverage and access to care, ensuring that people can get the care they need.
- Advance whole-person primary, preventive, and home and community-based care.
- Accelerate care delivery and payment innovation focused on health-related social needs.

The current five-year period for this waiver began on July 1, 2023, and ends June 30, 2028.

WHAT ARE THE INITIATIVES UNDER MTP 2.0?

MTP 2.0 consists of seven provisions. They are as follows:

- **Older and Aging Adults and Family Caregivers**: supports Washington's aging population and family caregivers who provide care for their loved ones.
    - Medicaid Alternative Care (MAC) and Tailored Supports for Older Adults (TSOA)
        - These programs will broaden the array of service options that enable individuals to remain at home and avoid or delay the need for more intensive care. The state has created a system of care focused on outcomes that support unpaid family caregivers in caring for loved ones, delay or avoid need for more intensive long-term services and supports (LTSS), create better linkages within the health care system, and continue its commitment to a robust LTSS system for those who need it.
    - Long-Term Services and Supports Presumptive Eligibility (LTSS PE)
        - This program is a package of services that provides individuals an opportunity for expedited access to specific home and community-based services in their own home and Medicaid medical coverage, for a limited time, while full functional and financial eligibility are being determined.
- **Housing and Employment:** Foundational Community Supports (FCS) provides supportive housing and supported employment services to our most vulnerable Medicaid beneficiaries. These services are designed to promote independence and recovery by helping participants find and maintain stable housing and employment.
    - Foundational Community Supports – Supported Employment
        - These services assist those individuals who want to work and meet FCS criteria. Supported Employment services are designed to be person-centered and offer individualized, one-to-one supports to individuals interested in employment in the community. FCS creates a system of services which will provide pre-employment and post-employment services

to an individual at any point in their pathway to employment. The services are not time-limited but are intended to support the individual for as long as there is an identified need. Individualized Supported Employment services include: identifying career and occupational targets, developing ongoing relationships with prospective employers, assisting with the interviewing and hiring process, benefit planning supports, and once hired, support with maintaining employment.

- Foundational Community Supports – Supportive Housing
  - Washington has offered Supportive Housing benefits through Foundational Community Supports since January 1, 2018. Supportive Housing provides dedicated housing support to people with complex needs wishing to live independently. The service provides wraparound support, which means facilitating cross sector coordination of all services the person needs and wants. Supportive Housing services may be an option for individuals who want to live independently and have a history of unsuccessful housing episodes without coordinated, focused support services. These specialty services provide assistance and support to aid an eligible individual in searching and finding housing (pre-tenancy services) and support an individual maintain their independent housing (ongoing tenancy support services).

- **Behavioral Health:** Washington State believes behavioral health–which includes care for our minds or bodies when substances are misused–is just as important as physical health care. Under the Medicaid Transformation Project (MTP) 2.0, these programs support individuals who are receiving services for substance use disorder (SUD) treatment or serious mental illness. MTP 2.0 also includes SUD and other behavioral health services for people in prisons and jails, with the goal of continued recovery once they reenter the community.
  - SUD IMD program
  - Mental health IMD program
  - Contingency management for SUD treatment
- **Reentry from a Carceral Setting**: Reentry services under MTP provides essential services for individuals leaving a state prison, county/city jail, or youth correctional facility.
- **Continuous Enrollment:** Includes continuous two components: Apple Health enrollment for children, ages 0 through 5 provides continued benefits for eligible children, ages 0 through the end of the month in which they turn 6 years old and Apple Health postpartum coverage expansion which provides continued benefits for individuals from the end of the pregnancy through 12 months of postpartum.
- **Health-Related Social Needs (HRSN):** HRSN is composed of 3 provisions: Community Hubs which focuses on community-based care coordination, including screening patients, determining patient needs, connecting patients to community organizations that can provide those needs, and more; Native Hubs which is a statewide network of Indian health care providers, tribal social service divisions, and Native-led, Native-serving organizations focused on whole-person care coordination; and Other HRSN services including nutrition, housing, rental subsidies, transportation, and other non-medical HRSN services that help a person live their healthiest life. Rental subsidies up to 6 months is a specific HRSN service for individuals transitioning out of institutional care or congregate settings, such as nursing

facilities, large group homes, congregate residential settings, Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMDs), correctional facilities, and acute care hospitals, or Homeless, at risk of homelessness, or transitioning out of an emergency shelter as defined by 24 CFR 91.5, or Youth transitioning out of the child welfare system, including foster care. This program provides financial assistance to individuals at risk of homelessness so they can pay their rent and have stable housing.

- **HRSN System:** This program provides infrastructure investments to support the readiness for HRSN service delivery. Investments include technology, planning, workforce development, and convening.

The Older and Aging Adults and Family Caregivers as well as Housing and Employment programs are operated through Home and Community Services (HCS).

MTP RESOURCES

MTP Community Workspace: the MTP SharePoint site that contains useful information, training videos, desk aids, and a Q & A forum called Conversation Cafe`.

Health Care Authority's Healthier Washington Website

HCS MTP Intranet site

HCLA MTP Internet site

Acronyms

MTP	Medicaid Transformation Project
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
HCA	Health Care Authority
MAC	Medicaid Alternative Care
TSOA	Tailored Supports for Older Adults
LTSS PE	Long-Term Services and Supports Presumptive Eligibility
LTSS	Long-Term Services and Supports
FCS	Foundational Community Supports
HRSN	Health-Related Social Needs
IMDs	Institutions for Mental Diseases
HCS	Home and Community Services
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
SUD	Substance Use Disorder
HCLA	Home and Community Living Administration

REVISION HISTORY

DATE	MADE BY	CHANGE(S)	MB #

November 2019	Debbie Johnson	Moved to new template	H19-0xx
May 2024	Resa Lee-Bell	Incorporated language from June 2023 CMS Approval/STC's	
April 2025	Resa Lee-Bell	Addition of Acronyms Style Formatting Update	
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