

# CHOICE

## Community and Home Options to Institutional Care for the Elderly and Disabled

### CHOICE

CHOICE is a state-funded program administered by the Division of Aging that provides eligible individuals support services in their homes and communities. CHOICE clients work with a case manager to develop a plan of care that contains the services needed to keep the individual out of a nursing facility. Children who have disabilities may be eligible for CHOICE.

### Services Provided

Services available include Case Management, Adaptive Aides, Adult Day Services, Attendant Care, Home Health Aide, Homemaker, Home Modifications, Personal Emergency Response System, Respite, Skilled Nursing, Medical Supplies, Transportation, and more.

Please note that CHOICE does not provide comprehensive healthcare coverage or automatic enrollment in Medicaid or other programs.

### Eligibility

#### Financial

The CHOICE program does not exclude recipients based upon income limits. However, there is a cost-share provision. Individuals who are at or above a specific income are required to pay for a portion of the services received. Individuals who are at or below 150% of poverty after certain allowable deductions are exempt from the cost-share provision. Individuals may be required to apply for Medicaid and been denied and have assets with a total value less than \$250,000. Certain medical expenses are not included in the income or asset calculation.

#### Disability

Eligibility requires that an individual have at least two impairments impacting Activities of Daily Living (ADL's). These ADL's can include eating, transferring, changing clothes, bathing, managing bowel and bladder functioning, and ambulating activities, among others. If this requirement is not met, other criteria may be used in determining eligibility.

#### Availability

The CHOICE program is available in each of Indiana's 92 counties. Administration is done regionally by the local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and waiting lists will vary throughout the state.

#### Apply

You can apply by calling the local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for an application. See the state map: [https://www.in.gov/fssa/da/files/AAA\\_Map.pdf](https://www.in.gov/fssa/da/files/AAA_Map.pdf) or call **1-800-986-3505** to identify your local office.

Individuals who are eligible for CHOICE are urged to consider if they may be eligible for other programs, including Medicaid Waivers, Hoosier Healthwise and the Children's Special Health Care Services program. CHOICE funds may only be utilized after an applicant has been determined and documented ineligible for Medicaid, or if currently eligible for Medicaid then after a determination that the requested service(s) is not available from Medicaid.

### Apply for CHOICE

☐ At your Local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Office. To find your local office call

**1-800-986-3505**

Programs and systems change often. It is important to ensure that you are using the most current information. This fact sheet was updated May 2021. Please check [http://fvindiana.org/fact\\_sheets](http://fvindiana.org/fact_sheets) for the most recent edition.

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