



ASSISTED LIVING WAIVER

Care Coordination Agency

A Not-For-Profit Corporation

Debbie Toth
Chief Executive Officer

ASSISTED LIVING WAIVER FACT SHEET

Background

In March 2006, Medi-Cal began paying for assisted living care to select aged and disabled residents of Los Angeles, Sacramento, and San Joaquin counties under the Assisted Living Waiver Pilot Project (ALWPP). A key goal of the program was to enable low-income, Medi-Cal eligible seniors and persons with disabilities, who would otherwise require nursing facility services, to remain in or relocate to the community. The pilot project was successful during three years in the limited trial in three counties and is currently open to potential providers in the following counties: Sacramento, San Joaquin, Los Angeles, Sonoma, Fresno, San Bernardino, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Diego and Riverside. The Department of Health Care Services will continue to oversee the delivery of assisted living services and determine whether those services are being provided cost-effectively and in a manner that assures the safety and well-being of participants.

Eligibility

Participants must be eligible for full-scope or share-of-cost Medi-Cal benefits and require a nursing facility level of care. The latter requirement is key to eligibility because the program is designed to serve people who would otherwise need nursing home care. Contracted Care Coordination Agencies use a standardized assessment tool to determine the clients need for nursing home level of care. The project serves people age 21 and older.

People living in other counties can receive services if they are otherwise qualified, willing to relocate to one of the participating counties, and work with an enrolled care coordination agency.

Choosing a Facility

Participants select the facility or provider of their choice. Care coordination agencies will inform participants about available facilities and providers. RCFEs are allowed to reject a participant. However, once a facility admits someone, it must provide necessary services and adapt services, as the person's needs change. All providers are expected to deliver all four levels (tiers) of care.

Why Should RCFEs Participate?

As a licensed RCFE you and other service providers aid in giving back to the community by assisting low-income participants maintain independence and receive necessary supportive services in a less restrictive and more homelike setting. Additionally, you will also assist DHCS in testing the effectiveness of assisted living as a Medi-Cal benefit.

Service Locations

RSNC Corporate Offices	Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP)	Mt. Diablo Center for Adult Day Health Care	Bedford Center for Adult Day Health Care	California Community Transitions (CCT)
490 Golf Club Road Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 925.682.6343	490 Golf Club Road Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 925.356.6777	490 Golf Club Road Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 925.682.6330	1811 "C" Street Antioch, CA 94509 925.778.4171	1811 C Street Antioch, CA 94509 925.778.4171

What Are the Reimbursement Rates?

Reimbursement for services provided is based on a Room and Board rate as well as the participants Level of Care. Each participant will be assessed by RSNC utilizing an ALW assessment tool to determine their Level of Care. The assessment tool will provide the participant with a Tier level between 1 and 4 and daily reimbursement is as follows:

- Tier 1 -- \$52/participant/day
- Tier 2 -- \$62/participant/day
- Tier 3 -- \$71/participant/day
- Tier 4 -- \$82/participant/day

Room and Board: All ALW providers receive room and board (rent) payments from ALW participants. The current room and board rate for RCFE assisted living is as follows:

- \$1,003 per month based on income of \$1,133.00 from Social Security (SS) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI), less \$130.00 for the personal needs allowance).
- \$1,023 per month based on income of \$1,153.00 or greater, less \$130.00 for the personal needs allowance.

What is the Role of Rehabilitation Services of Northern California (RSNC)?

RSNC acts as a Care Coordination Agency (CCA) in Contra Costa County for the ALW. The services as a CCA include identifying, organizing, coordinating and monitoring services needed by a participant. Care Coordinators conduct assessments to assist in determining eligibility, develop Individualized Service Plans (ISPs), arrange for services, maintain contact with participants, and monitor service delivery on a monthly basis.

How to Become a Service Provider?

To become a provider for the ALW you will need to do the following:

- Complete an ALWP application
- Obtain a NPI
- Submit a Medi-Cal Provider Enrollment Application
- Applications and NPI information can be found at the direct link below:
<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ltc/Pages/ALW-Provider-Enrollment.aspx>

RCFEs must be licensed, not be on probation or have pending accusations against their license, and be in substantial compliance with licensing requirements. Additionally, RCFEs must:

- Meet care needs of all participants in accordance with their care plans at all four levels of care.
- Have awake staff 24 hours a day, except in facilities with 6 or fewer residents.
- Employ or contract with a nurse or nursing agency to provide any required nursing services as often as is necessary.
- Have a hospice waiver and be able to care for cognitively impaired residents.
- Have single occupancy rooms for participants, unless a participant chooses to have a roommate.
- Have private bathrooms or bathrooms shared by no more than 2 participants.
- Have a kitchenette in the room of each participant, except in facilities with 6 or fewer residents, where the requirement is waived if the resident has continuous access to the facility's kitchen.

RSNC Contact for ALW

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