



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF TENNCARE
310 Great Circle Road
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243

Date: June 30, 2015

To: CHOICES Assisted Care Living Facility (ACLF) Services Providers
TennCare Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)

From: Michelle Morse Jernigan, Deputy, LTSS Quality and Administration

CC: Patti Killingsworth, Chief of LTSS/Assistant Commissioner
Mandy Johnson, Assistant Deputy, LTSS Quality and Administration

Re: Assisted Care Living Facility Services in the CHOICES Program

This memo is to inform you that on June 24, 2015, TennCare received approval of Amendment 18 to extend Assisted Care Living Facility (ACLF) Services to individuals in CHOICES Group 3. CHOICES Group 3 is comprised of individuals who are “at risk” of institutionalization and are either adults (age 21 and older) with a physical disability or elderly (age 65 and older).

Amendment 18 makes certain modifications in definitions of benefits under the CHOICES program, which is the portion of TennCare that serves the elderly and adults with physical disabilities requiring long-term services and supports (LTSS). There are three CHOICES program components. CHOICES 1 serves individuals living in Nursing Facilities (NFs). CHOICES 2 serves individuals who qualify for NF care but who are able to benefit from home and community-based services (HCBS) that provide an alternative to NF care. As stated above, CHOICES 3 serves individuals who are “at risk” for institutional placement. People in CHOICES 2 and CHOICES 3 are eligible for an array of home and community based services (HCBS) that provide a safe and cost-effective alternative to institutional placement. Certain community based residential alternatives, including ACLFs are considered HCBS when compliant with the federal HCBS Setting Rule.

Effective July 1, 2015, ACLF Services will be extended to individuals in CHOICES Group 3.

ACLF services will be provided for CHOICES 3 members only when the cost is no more than the cost of CHOICES HCBS (*Note: CHOICES Group 3 has an individual annual expenditure cap of \$15,000.*) that would otherwise be needed by the individual to be safely served in the community and to delay or prevent nursing facility placement.

June 30, 2015

As indicated in the December 22, 2014 memo **for 2015, the maximum monthly room and board charges in an Assisted Living Care Facility for CHOICES members cannot exceed the lesser of \$1,759.20 per month or any lesser amount that would be charged to a resident not enrolled in the CHOICES program.** This amount will be adjusted each year in accordance with the federal SSI benefit rate.