

ADRC/IRIS Implementation Series #5

Topic: The Use of Community Based Residential Facilities (CBRFs) in IRIS

The Department of Health Services (DHS) submitted amendments to the IRIS waiver proposing to eliminate Community Based Residential Facility (CBRF) as an IRIS funded service and as a long-term living setting for IRIS participants. This is to assure that living settings permitted in IRIS are consistent with full self-direction. The amendment has been approved effective January 1, 2014, stating CBRF cannot be added as a new service on an IRIS participant's plan. For current IRIS participants already living in a CBRF, there will be a transition period permitted in order to give people time to move to an allowable setting, or to maintain CBRF services by selecting a different program that may permit these services. No IRIS participants may be "grandfathered" per the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Other residential facilities such as 1-2 bed and 3-4 bed Adult Family Homes (AFHs) and Residential Care Apartment Complexes (RCACs) will continue to be allowable living settings in the IRIS program.

For Current IRIS Participants Living in a CBRF

The IRIS Consultant Agency will work with the individual to determine if he or she would prefer to remain living in a CBRF. If the individual chooses to remain living in a CBRF, he/she will be referred to the ADRC for enrollment counseling to learn about other long term care programs where CBRF services may be available based on the care planning process. If the individual chooses to remain in IRIS, the IRIS Consultant Agency will assist the individual to find a new allowable living setting and to move to that setting. These decisions and actions will need to be completed in advance of the December 31, 2014 service discontinuation date.

For Current IRIS Participants Considering Moving to a CBRF

For current IRIS participants who may be considering a move into a CBRF, the IRIS Consultant will inform the participants of the elimination of CBRFs as an allowable living setting. The IRIS participants will be informed that if they choose to move to a CBRF, they would have to change their long term care program to one where CBRF is allowed or move to an allowable living setting before December 31, 2014. It will not be allowable to add CBRF services to an already existing service plan after January 1, 2014.

For Individuals Receiving Enrollment Counseling

For individuals receiving enrollment counseling, the ADRC should inform the individual of the elimination of CBRFs as an allowable living setting. If the individual is interested in living in a CBRF, he or she will need to choose a program where CBRF is an allowable living setting.