



New York State’s Money Follows the Person Program

Mission: Rebalance the long-term care system from facility-based to home and community-based services and supports.

Fifty-six percent of MFP-qualified participants are under the age of 65!

MFP funds the *Open Doors* Transition Center program, which assists individuals living in nursing homes and intermediate care facilities throughout New York to explore options for living and receiving services in the community.

View MFP’s [Public Health Live!](#) webcast!

Open Doors Transition Specialists meet with individuals and their circles of support to provide information about home and community-based services, community preparedness education, and transition planning for individuals who wish to return to homes in the community. Transition Specialists collaborate with nursing home and intermediate care facility staff, community service providers, and housing resources to facilitate successful community transitions.

As part of the *Open Doors* team, trained Peers who live independently in the community provide emotional support and discussion about choices that may impact the participants’ lives.

Open Doors Education and Outreach staff offer targeted education and outreach to all nursing homes throughout the state on MDS Section Q, local contact agency referral procedures, and options for community transition.

MFP supports the statewide TRAIID Center network, which provides for demonstrations and loans of adaptive equipment and assistive technology devices.

MFP also sponsors training on person-centered planning and practice for individuals who provide, oversee, receive, and support those who receive home and community-based services across service systems statewide.

“I am very pleased with Open Doors. They help to keep everyone moving to allow me to get back to my home. Without this program I would probably have to live in a nursing home, which I didn’t want to do. Thank you so much!”

-Participant

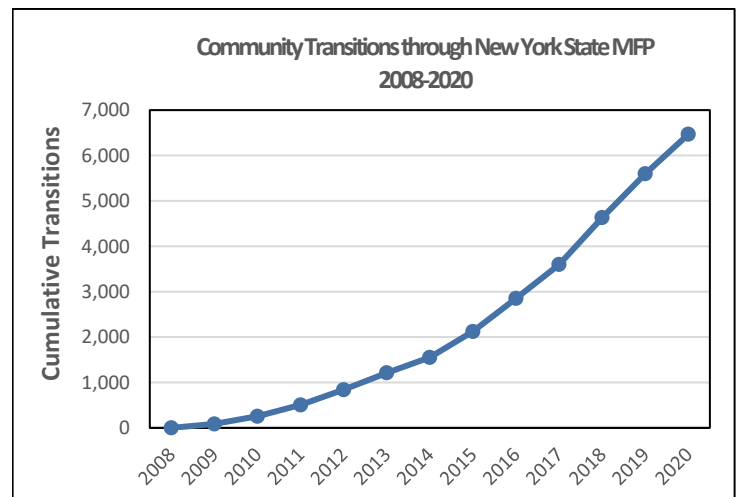
The Good Neighbor Program – a Challenge and a Solution

Individuals planning to transition out of a nursing home may find that informal supports they had before entering the nursing home are no longer available. Individuals may not be able to access home health aide services because they lack family or friends to provide back-up support. Lack of informal support may prevent a community transition or lead to re-institutionalization.

As part of a capacity building initiative, volunteer Good Neighbors are recruited and matched with participants for whom lack of informal support presents a barrier to community transition. The Good Neighbors are afforded a small stipend to act in the role often filled by family or friends who can provide a range of non-medical support when the formal support system is not available. Good Neighbors may help with light housekeeping, meals, errands, telephone reassurance or visitation, and social support. Good Neighbors help to break down social isolation and build engagement within the community, important aspects of a successful community transition.

MFP Community Transition Activities

- Met with almost 17,000 individuals
- Facilitated over 6,500 community transitions
- Provided over 4,200 peer support visits
- Conducted almost 900 education and outreach presentations to nursing homes*
- Provided over 22,000 assistive technology and adaptive equipment loans
- Demonstrated almost 17,300 assistive technology devices
- Trained over 9,500 individuals on person-centered planning and practice

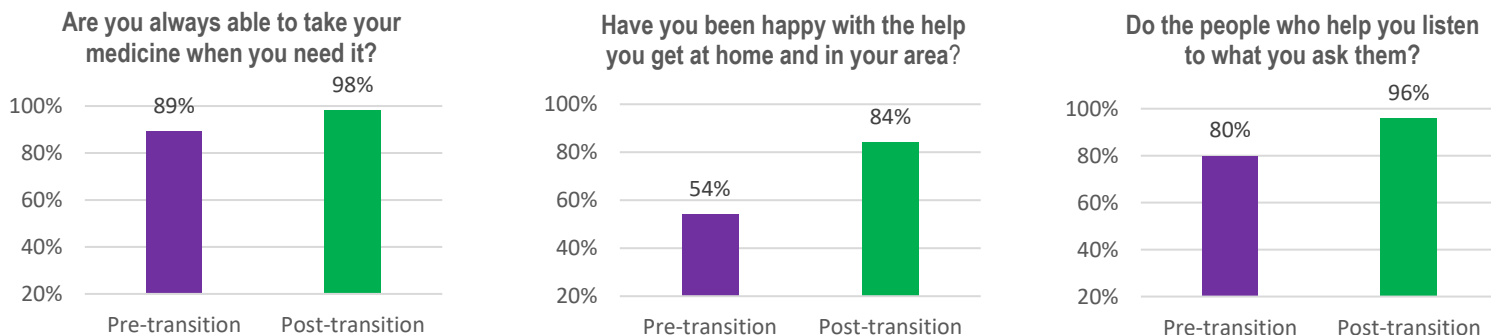


*since 2018

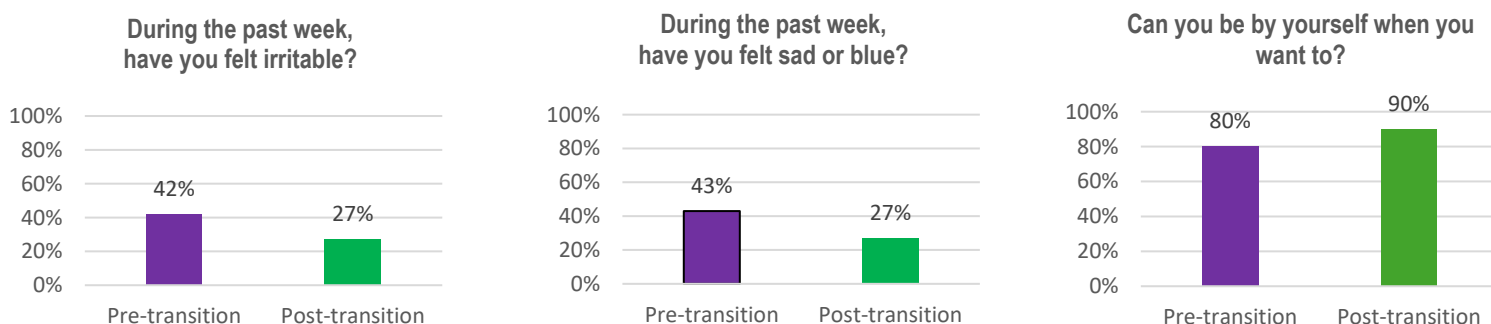
New York State's Quality of Life Survey Results (CY2020)

MFP conducts a voluntary *Quality of Life* Survey prior to transition and again 11 months after transition. The survey gives participants a chance to express their thoughts and feelings about the services they receive and their overall quality of life. The results below represent the percent of individuals who answered "yes" to the following questions in the pre- and post-transition surveys.

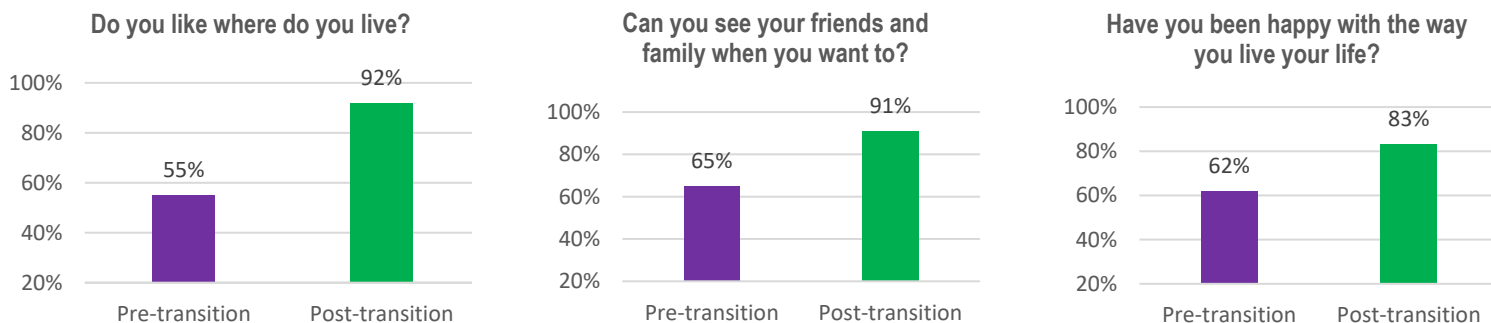
ACCESS TO CARE



MENTAL HEALTH



LIFE SATISFACTION



Transitions during COVID 19 Pandemic

In March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic suddenly halted the regular operation of the Open Doors program. Open Doors staff shifted quickly and smoothly to providing services remotely via phone, email, and video contacts. Creative strategies were adopted to address participants' emergent needs in the community:

- Providing Peer support post-transition
- Delivering food, gloves, and cleaning supplies curbside
- Partnering with local food banks and apartment complexes to offer onsite food pantries
- Working with small business owners to obtain essential goods for participants at reduced prices or with deferred payment
- Holding weekly calls with all staff to focus on COVID-19 resources, updates, and strategies
- Presenting a webinar on the emotional impact of COVID-19 for staff struggling with grief and loss
- Providing pre-paid mobile phones to increase opportunities for communication with participants

For more information, contact: mfp@health.ny.gov