

# Veteran Directed Home and Community Based Services (VD-HCBS)



Lieutenant Governor's  
Office on Aging

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# What Is Veteran Directed Home and Community Based Services?

The VD-HCBS program is a new approach to home and community based services designed to assist Veterans and their families in directing their own services and supports.

The VD-HCBS program:

- ▣ Serves Veterans of any age who are at risk of nursing home placement and their family caregivers.
- ▣ Provides Veterans the opportunity to receive home and community based services that enable them to avoid institutionalization and continue to live in their homes and communities.
- ▣ Gives the Veteran choices and flexibility in the care they need and want.
- ▣ Is a Collaboration between the Administration on Aging and the Veterans Health Administration to utilize the vast knowledge and services provided by the local ADRC (Aging & Disability Resource Center) and build the relationship between the ADRC's and their local VAMC (Veterans Administration Medical Center)

# Target Population

Veterans enrolled in VA health care system are eligible to participate in the VD-HCBS program when the Veteran is “in need of nursing home care” and interested in self-directed care.

Veterans are determined “in need of nursing home care” when **one** or more of the following conditions is met:

- ▣ Three or more activities of daily living (ADL) dependencies
- ▣ Significant cognitive impairment
- ▣ Receiving hospice services
- ▣ Two ADL dependencies **and two** or more of the following:
  - 3 or more instrumental activities of daily living (IADL) dependencies
  - Recently discharged from a nursing facility or nursing home discharge contingent on receipt of HCBS services
  - Recently discharged from inpatient rehabilitation facility or discharge contingent on receipt of HCBS services
  - 75 years old or greater
  - 3 hospitalizations or 12 outpatient clinic/emergency evaluations in past 12 months
  - Diagnosis of Clinical Depression
  - Lives alone in the community
- ▣ Meets some of the criteria of the target population, but clinically determined by the local VAMC to need services

NOTE: The VD-HCBS program is targeted to Veterans and caregivers whose home care needs exceed the average number of hours generally available through the Homemaker/Home Health Aide (H/HHA) Program at a VAMC or have difficulty with the traditional agency-based home care system, and who desire to self-direct their services and supports.

# What Does Self-Direction Mean?

**In the VD-HCBS program, self-direction means the participant decides:**

- What services, supports and goods he or she needs
- When the services and supports are provided
- Who provides those services and supports
- Where the services and supports are provided
- How the services and supports are provided

**Self-direction means the participant has more:**

- Choice
- Control
- Flexibility
- Freedom

**With self-direction, the participant:**

- Is in control of his or her life
- Can get support with what he or she needs in the way he or she needs it
- Makes choices about his or her services and supports
- Hires the people to provide his or her services and supports

**Self-direction also means:**

- Money gets approved for him or her to maintain a budget, to hire workers and buy goods, all according to a plan he or she helps to create and is approved by the VAMC
- He or she is responsible for following the Veterans Directed Home and Community Services rules.

# Participant Responsibilities

Due to the extensive involvement in their own care, VD-HCBS will not be a good fit for everyone.

Participants need to be willing and able to self-direct their own care, which will be evaluated by the ARDC care coordinator.

This does not mean they have to figure everything out alone.

A participant is able to:

- ▣ Appoint a Designated Representative (someone they trust such as a family member or close friend) to make decisions for them
- ▣ Ask their care coordinator and financial management service for help along the way

# Care Coordinator

Everyone who participates in VD-HCBS will have a care coordinator assigned to them from their local ADRC.

The Care Coordinator is available to help the participant:

- ▣ Understand the VD-HCBS program
- ▣ Develop a service plan and budget
- ▣ Evaluate the service plan and budget
- ▣ Understand and assist in completing paperwork
- ▣ Solve problems, questions, or concerns that may arise
- ▣ Evaluate how VD-HCBS is working out for the participant

# Financial Management Service

Everyone who enrolls in the VDHCBS program will:

- ❑ use the Financial Management Services (FMS) of PPL (Public Partnership LLC), the LGOA contracted FMS
- ❑ Follow the policies and procedures set by the FMS and LGOA

The FMS will:

- ❑ Act as an employer payroll agent and take care of all money issues like timesheets, payroll, taxes and other employer-related requirements
- ❑ Disburse checks to the people and agencies hired and to the places where goods and other services are purchased
- ❑ Send budget reports to both the participant and LGOA
- ❑ Contact the care coordinator if something is requested that is not approved in the service plan and budget
- ❑ Answer questions about payroll matters

# Service Cost and Budget

A Veteran's budget is determined by his or her needs to keep them in their home and enhance their quality of life. It is also to assist family caregivers and allow the veteran to be active in their community within the scope of their abilities. The budget is created and within a range set by the VA.

The veteran's budget is created for a year, broken down by month, and is reviewed biannually.

Average Budget per Veteran per month (National average) \$2200 per month or \$26,400 per year

Average Nursing Home Cost in SC , Per month \$6,200 or \$74,400 per year

Almost a 1 to 3 ratio cost consideration- But the Quality of Life for the Veteran is much better

# As of Sept 20, 2011

## SC Statistics

- ▣ 6 Veterans enrolled and receiving services
- ▣ 3 that have completed all paperwork and prepared to start receiving services
- ▣ 1 completing paperwork currently
- ▣ 3 that have completed their Assessment
- ▣ 3 new referrals from the VAMC
- ▣ 1 Veteran passed away in the program
- ▣ Dorn VA prepared to start referrals October 1st

# Questions ?



# THANK YOU!

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