

# LIVING INDEPENDENCE FOR THE ELDERLY (LIFE)

In 1998, Pennsylvania became one of the first states in the nation to offer the **Living Independence For the Elderly (LIFE)** program.

This program provides nursing-facility clinically eligible individuals age 55 and older a community-based alternative to nursing home care. This program offers: long-term services and supports (LTSS), acute care, behavioral health, pharmacy, meals, transportation, and any other services determined necessary to meet the individuals' needs.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Pennsylvanians age 55 or older who:

- Meet the clinical eligibility (level of care) needs for a skilled nursing facility or a special rehabilitation facility;
- Meet the financial requirements as determined by the local county assistance office or be able to private pay;
- Reside in an area served by a LIFE provider; and
- Are able to be safely served in the community at the time of enrollment as determined by a LIFE provider.

## LIFE HIGHLIGHTS:

- LIFE is for people who want to continue living independently in the community, but whose health prevents them from doing so without special assistance.
- Most individuals will have no charges, fees, premiums, co-pays, or deductibles.
- Takes care of medical, personal-care, in-home, and transportation needs.
- Features LIFE "day centers" for services, socializing, and more.

*Individuals who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid can enroll for services through a LIFE Program at no out-of-pocket expense.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### OFFICE OF LONG-TERM LIVING

Website: [www.dhs.pa.gov](http://www.dhs.pa.gov) • OLTL information line: **1-800-757-5042**

## AVAILABLE SERVICES:

### Health services

- Primary care
- Medical specialists
- Prescription drugs
- Physical, speech, and occupational therapy
- Vision, hearing, foot, and dental care
- Behavioral health
- Hospital care
- Long-term care
- Emergency care
- Lab and x-ray services
- Medical equipment
- 24/7 on-call nurse

### Personal care

- Adult day care
- Nursing services
- Meals
- Transportation
- Recreation and social activities
- Social services
- In-home modifications
- Help with bathing, dressing, housekeeping, laundry, and/or chores.