

California Department of Aging

Multipurpose Senior Services Program Narrative

Program / Element / Component -- 40.40

Description

The Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) provides both social and health care case management services for frail elderly clients who wish to remain in their own homes and communities. The goal of the program is to use available community services and resources to prevent or delay institutionalization of these frail clients. The services must be provided at a cost lower than that of a skilled nursing facility.

Benefits

A team of health and social service professionals provide each client with a complete health and psychosocial assessment to determine what services are needed. The team then works with the client, their physician, family, and others to develop an individualized care plan.

Services include, but are not limited to: case management, adult day social care, housing assistance, in-home chore and personal care services, respite services, transportation services, protective services, meal services, and special communication assistance.

Eligibility

Clients eligible for the Program must be a least 65 years of age, currently eligible for Medi-Cal, and certified or certifiable for placement in an intermediate or skilled nursing facility.

Access

Information on MSSP and how to qualify and receive services can be obtained by calling the statewide toll free line at **1-800-510-2020** or the local Area Agency on Aging listed in the blue-bordered pages of the Community Services section of the telephone book under Senior Information and Referral/Assistance, or access the California Department of Aging website at www.aging.ca.gov.

Background

MSSP was established by the Social Security Act, Title XIX, Home and Community-Based Waiver (Sec 2176) and was initially authorized in 1977 as a four-year demonstration and research project. CH 1453/82 extended the Program contingent upon obtaining the Title XIX Waiver. CH 1637/84 authorized transfer of the Program to the California Department of Aging. CH 879/88 authorized continuation of the Program

until June 30, 1990. CH 1318/89 authorized the Program for as long as a federal waiver is granted.

A Budget Change Proposal in Fiscal Year (FY) 1998/99 added 13 sites to expand services to all non-served Planning and Service Areas in the State.

The FY 2000/01 Governor's budget authorized statewide expansion of the Program to serve up to 16,335 clients a year. Through a Request for Proposal process, six new MSSP sites were selected.

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