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Opportunities for Living Life (OLL) Newsletter

THE OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

What is OLL?

Opportunities for Living Life (OLL) is charged with developing, operating and administering new program initiatives for SoonerCare. Additionally, OLL is charged with developing collaboration among state and private agencies, community organizations, and stakeholders in creating a system of health care, long-term care support and home- and community-based services support that meets the needs of every Oklahoma citizen.

THE NEXT OLL NEWSLETTER:

Also—sign up to receive the OLL Newsletter by e-mailing OLL@okhca.org or calling Dena @ 405-522-7343.

OLL Mission Statement

To enhance quality of life for target citizenry by delivering effective programs and facilitating a partnership with the community.

Money Follows the Person

With approval of the operating plan from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Living Choice project will begin Nov. 1, 2008. With this project, Oklahomans of all ages with disabilities or long-term illnesses will be able to make living in the community a reality.

People with mental retardation, older people and people with physical disabilities will develop a transition plan in order to move back to the community. In the upcoming year, the Living Choice project hopes to transition 611 people from state institutions and nursing facilities.

The Living Choice Advisory Committee will advise and assist the Living Choice staff in the implementation of the Living Choice project. This committee is composed of consumers who have lived in institutions, their family members, advocates and agency representatives.

Transition coordinators, like case managers, will assist consumers in planning their transition and supporting them in making it successful.

The Living Choice project team is striving to make 2009 a triumphant year for transitions. If you would like to contact us, please feel free to e-mail Lathonya Shivers, director of Living Choice, at Lathonya.Shivers@okhca.org.

OUR WEB SITE HAS CHANGED!
DON'T FORGET TO BOOKMARK
OUR NEW SITE!

WWW.OKHCA.ORG

Care Program for Seniors Based in Tahlequah Taking Applications

Tahlequah – Applications are now being accepted for the new Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), a program designed for nursing home eligible people age 55 and older who want to live in the community. The Cherokee Nation, through a partnership with Oklahoma Health Care Authority and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, began offering PACE Aug. 1, 2008, at the Cherokee Elder Care facility.

Upon development of individual care plans by a team of health care professionals, participants will receive comprehensive health-related and social services as well as all necessary preventive, primary, acute and long-term care services, including therapy, social services, nursing and personal care through a contracted network of PACE providers.

"Members of PACE will receive a variety of services that will allow them to remain out of hospitals and long-term care facilities," said Trevlyn Cross, Indian Health manager at the health care authority.

"I'm fully supportive of this unique approach to health care. It offers unlimited possibilities," said Ben Stevens, Cherokee Nation Elder Care director. "I think it's a good solution for all of Oklahoma, particularly rural areas."

PACE is offered to anyone in the center's service area who meets the program's qualifications, regardless of whether they are members of the Cherokee Nation. The service area includes the following ZIP codes: 74347, 74352, 74368, 74401, 74403, 74423, 74427, 74434, 74441, 74451, 74452, 74464 and 74471. For more information or to apply, contact Sharon Washington at Cherokee Elder Care, 918-453-5599.

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