



## FAMILY CARE PROVIDERS

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### ISSUE

Does Medicaid reimburse family members for services they provide to incapacitated relatives who are Medicaid recipients?

### SUMMARY

Medicaid reimburses certain family members for some services they provide to recipients who are enrolled in the (1) Community First Choice (CFC) program or (2) Connecticut Home Care Program for the Elders (CHCPE), Personal Care Attendant (PCA), or Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) II Medicaid waiver programs.

### CFC PROGRAM

The CFC program allows eligible individuals to stay in the community and access personal attendant care and other services and supports from caregivers through self-direction (i.e., individuals control how, when, where, and by whom the services and supports are provided based on criteria they establish). Family members other than spouses, legally liable relatives, conservators, and guardians may receive reimbursement for attendant services under this program. Such services include assistance with eating, bathing, dressing, personal hygiene, and other activities of daily living. There are no specific exclusions regarding the services for which such family members may be reimbursed under CFC. Service plans which are aligned with the individual's goals are funded by the individual's budget (i.e., the money they receive from DSS to pay for the care) and must be approved by DSS.

### MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAMS

The CHCPE, PCA, and ABI II are all 1915i Medicaid waiver programs. Under 1915i Medicaid waivers, the state receives partial federal reimbursement for providing home and community-based services to certain populations based on state-defined criteria.



### ***CHCPE***

The CHCPE waiver helps eligible applicants (age 65 or older) at risk of nursing home placement to continue to live in the community. Family members other than spouses and legally liable relatives may be reimbursed for adult family living services through this waiver. Such services include hands-on care, such as bathing and dressing and independent adult family living assistance (i.e., non-hands on care, such as meal-prep and laundry).

### ***PCA***

The PCA waiver provides services to help adults with chronic, severe, and permanent disabilities stay in the community. Family members other than spouses, parents of minor children, conservators, guardians, and relatives of conservators or guardians can be reimbursed for adult family living services through this waiver.

### ***ABI II***

The ABI II waiver allows individuals ages 18-65 with an acquired brain injury to receive home and community-based services necessary to allow them to live in the community and avoid institutionalization. Under this waiver, family members may receive reimbursement for agency personal care attendant (PCA) services, including assistance with eating, bathing, dressing, personal hygiene, and other activities of daily living. To be reimbursed for such services under this waiver, the family member must be hired by an approved PCA agency, as opposed to working directly for the family member. (Non-agency based services are available to waiver participants through the CFC program.)

DSS will not pay for ABI waiver services provided by the individual's conservator, power of attorney, or a family member of such conservator or power of attorney, or an agency provider owned by the individual's conservator or power of attorney.

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