

Tell your Senators to fund the Money Follows the Person Program to help fund community choices for individuals with brain injury.



## ACTION ALERT!

February 1, 2018

National Association of State Head Injury Administrators

### *Urge Your Senators to Fund the Money Follows the Person Program!*

On Sept. 30, 2016, funding for the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Demonstration Program expired. As a result, States are scaling back their programs to improve community options for individuals who are older and for individuals with disabilities, including brain injury.

Without action **NOW**, the program will lose progress. Sens. Rob Portman (R-OH) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA) have introduced bipartisan legislation (**EMPOWER Care Act - S. 2227**) to improve and extend the program for five years. **Urge your Senators to co-sponsor the bill!** The talking points and suggested actions below can be used as a guide to winning on this issue.

#### ***What Can You Do?***

##### **Action 1: National Call-In Day Thursday February 1, 2018**

\* **Call your Senators.** Call the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 or (202) 224-3091 (TTY) and ask to be connected to your Senators.

\* **Ask your Senator to Co-Sponsor EMPOWER Care Act S.2227** to extend the Money Follows the Person Program and to pass it immediately (see talking points below).

\* Click [here](#) for more information.

##### **Action 2: National Social Media Day Friday, February 2, 2018**

\* Tweet and Post on Facebook.

\* Tag Senators. Twitter handles. Find handles [here](#). It is particularly important to target Senate Finance Committee members. Here is a [list](#).

\* Use hashtag **#FundMFP** in your posts.

\* RSVP to this [Facebook event](#), which houses information on the many ways to communicate with Senators about this issue.

### Action 3: Email Your Senators before February 8, 2018

\* **Email your Senators.** Using the talking points below, craft an original email telling Senators to consider MFP during negotiations on the budget and other extensions of health-related programs in the coming weeks. The message: **an extension of Money Follows the Person Programs must be included.**

\* You can also use a pre-crafted email. By entering your zip code, the site will automatically address the message to your Senators. You're invited to personalize the message if you wish.

#### What to Say:

- The Money Follows the Person Program brings people with brain injury back home to their communities.
- The Money Follows the Person program gives people greater control over the lives.
- It's fiscally responsible! MFP improves the quality of life of individuals while saving States and the federal government Medicaid funding.
- The program expired over a year ago. *Without additional funding, States could scale back programs, potentially pulling the rug out from under the people who need it.*
- Talk about why this is important for you or someone you know, and your State. MFP frees people! MFP keeps families together! MFP reduces waiting lists!



Independent evaluations have proven MFP improves the quality of life for individuals, and reduced Medicaid and Medicare expenditures by approximately 23%.

Unfortunately, MFP expired September 30, 2016, and States are running out of funding.

**Call and email NOW!**

Please feel free to forward and share with disability advocates, families and individuals with brain injury in your State.

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