



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS  
WITH DISABILITIES**

December 10, 2019

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Committee Chair  
U.S. Senate, Finance Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate, Finance Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Grassley and Wyden,

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Task Force co-chairs are writing to thank you for your inclusion of a permanent reauthorization of the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Program and Spousal Impoverishment Protections in the Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction and Health and Human Services Improvement Act.

We have appreciated your long-standing commitment to expanding opportunities for people with disabilities and older adults to live and participate in their communities through the MFP program. Permanently funding MFP is critical to ensuring the ongoing participation by states in this important program that has consistently shown positive outcomes for people with disabilities and older adults and to cost-savings by states since it began in 2005.

The MFP program has helped over 91,000 people with disabilities and aging individuals move from institutional settings back to their communities. It has also shown cost savings. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) found an average cost savings of \$22,080 in the first year per older adult participant, \$21,396 for people with physical disabilities, and \$48,156 for people with intellectual disabilities.<sup>1</sup>

On behalf of people with disabilities and older adults, we once again thank you for including a permanent re-authorization of both Money Follows the Person and HCBS Spousal Impoverishment Protections in the Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction and Health and Human

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.medicare.gov/medicaid/ltss/downloads/money-follows-the-person/mfp-rtc.pdf> (Page 11)

Services Improvement Act. We hope that as you continue negotiations around your prescription drug bill, you will ensure that permanent reauthorization of MFP and Spousal Impoverishment Protections remain. We thank you both, along with your staff, for your continued and strong leadership on ensuring the permanent continuation of these critical programs for people with disabilities and older adults.

Sincerely,

LTSS Co-Chairs:

Alison Barkoff, Center for Public Representation

Julia Bascom, Autistic Self Advocacy Network

Nicole Jorwic, The Arc of the United States

Sarah Meek, ANCOR

Cc: Stuart Portman and Anne Dwyer