

purpose of the interagency agreement is to strengthen initial placements and long-term successes of individuals with disabilities through self-employment, by combining the business expertise of the department of economic development with the experience of the division of vocational rehabilitation of the department of education in working with people with disabilities. The business development division shall design the program to make the maximum amount of resources expended by the business development of the department of economic development eligible for federal reimbursement.

Approved April 14, 1994

CHAPTER 1077

SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT FOR NURSING FACILITY PLACEMENT

H.F. 582

AN ACT relating to the establishment of a screening and assessment pilot program to determine the appropriateness of community-based services for elders considering placement or residing in a nursing facility.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. PREADMISSION SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT PILOT PROGRAM.

1. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

- a. "Assessment" means a face-to-face conference between a case management program assessor and the elder which includes an evaluation of physical health, cognitive and emotional status, activities of daily living, transportation needs, a support system, the physical environment, and the financial status of the elder.
- b. "Case management program for elders" means a comprehensive system administered by the department as specified in this chapter.
- c. "Department" means the department of elder affairs.
- d. "Elder" means a person sixty-five years of age or older.
- e. "Nursing facility" means a nursing facility as defined in section 135C.1.
- f. "Screening" means an initial review to determine if a face-to-face comprehensive assessment by a case management program assessor is necessary prior to admission or following admission to a nursing facility.

2. Beginning July 1, 1994, and ending June 30, 1996, the department shall administer a preadmission screening and assessment pilot program for elders seeking admission to nursing facilities, in three to six counties in the state, which have existing case management programs for elders, in consultation with area agencies on the aging, service providers, and the peer review organization. The counties selected shall represent both rural and urban populations. Unless an elder is exempt from the preadmission screening and assessment pilot program pursuant to subsection 5 or 6, an elder shall not be admitted to a nursing facility in a participating county prior to completion of a preadmission screening and, if necessary, an assessment.

3. The department shall determine the appropriate agency to conduct the screening program.

a. The screening shall include but is not limited to a utilization review for the level of care needed and the identification of mental illness, mental retardation, and related mental health conditions of an elder.

b. The screening shall be conducted not more than three months prior to the application for admission of the elder to a nursing facility. If the screening of an elder has not been completed during the three-month period prior to the application for admission, the nursing facility shall request a screening prior to the admission of the elder.

c. During the screening process, the peer review organization shall identify elders with care needs who may be served through coordination of services in the community and shall refer these elders to the area agency on aging in the county of residence of the elder for a complete needs assessment.

4. A post-admission screening of elders in nursing facilities may be initiated based on any of the following criteria:

a. A rehabilitative placement shall be screened, periodically.

b. Residents with relatively low-level care needs, as identified in the existing peer review organization continued stay review process, shall be screened, periodically.

c. A member of the resident's family, the resident's physician, or a member of the nursing facility staff, may request screening.

5. If, following a screening, a determination of the need for an assessment is made, the case management program assessor shall perform an assessment of the elder, using a standard assessment tool approved by the department. Following the assessment and an interdisciplinary case conference, the case management staff shall explain the options available to the elder, the elder's family, and persons providing support services to the elder for the most appropriate care in the least restrictive environment. The elder, the elder's family, and persons providing support services to the elder, shall choose the care options to be provided to the elder.

6. If an elder's attending physician determines that an emergency placement of the elder in a nursing facility is necessary, a nursing facility may admit the elder prior to completion of a screening or assessment. Within three days following admission, the peer review organization shall provide for a screening and request an assessment if the screening indicates the need for an assessment.

7. The following elders are exempt from screening and assessment:

a. An elder transferring between nursing facilities, whether or not an intervening hospital stay takes place.

b. An elder admitted to a nursing facility prior to January 1, 1995.

c. An elder entering a nursing facility who has completed an assessment under the program within the three-month period prior to application for admission.

d. An elder admitted to a nursing facility directly from a hospital after receiving acute inpatient care at the hospital, unless the elder requires more than thirty days of nursing facility care, in which case the peer review organization shall conduct a screening within forty days of admission to the nursing facility.

e. An elder transferred within the same continuing care retirement community, as defined in section 523D.1, from a level of care or from a portion of the facility in which residents do not require nursing care, except on an emergency basis, to a level of care which is primarily nursing care or to a portion of the facility which is primarily engaged in providing nursing care.

8. The department shall submit an annual report to the governor and to the general assembly which provides an analysis of the pilot program.

Approved April 18, 1994