

# *Adult Family Care/Foster Care*

Presented by:

Stacey Leibowitz, Director of Family Services, CLASS, Inc.

and

Heather Chagnon, Director, Adult Foster Care, Greater  
Waltham Arc

# What is Adult Foster/Family Care?

- ▶ Adult Foster Care (AFC), also called Adult Family Care, is a MassHealth funded program for frail elderly adults and adults with disabilities who cannot live alone safely.
  - ▶ AFC adults live with trained paid caregivers who provide daily care.
  - ▶ The program is for adults who need daily help with personal care, but want to live in a family setting rather than in a nursing home or other facility.
  - ▶ The caregiver provides meals, companionship, personal care assistance, and 24-hour supervision.
- 

# What is Adult Foster/Family Care?

- ▶ Who can be a Caregiver?
    - ▶ Caregivers can be family members or non-family members.
    - ▶ Caregivers cannot be spouses, parents of minor children, or legally responsible relatives.
    - ▶ Caregivers must be approved by the program (interview, references, CORI check), and be able to provide 24-hour supervision).
- 

# What is Adult Foster/Family Care?

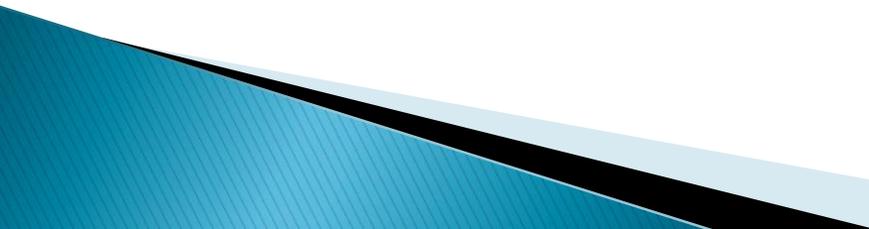
- ▶ **Caregiver Benefits, Clinical Services and Supports**
  - Financial reimbursement (up to \$18,000 a year tax-free).
  - Caregiver trainings (CPR, First aid, fire safety, etc.).
  - Assistance with accessing community resources
  - Relief and alternative placement days (up to 15 days per year).
  - Caseworker management and nursing support
  - Intake assessment.
  - 24-hour emergency care phone consultation.

# What is Adult Foster/Family Care?

## ▶ Who is Eligible for AFC?

- Individual must be 16 years of age or older.
- Must be unable to live alone because of a medical, physical, cognitive or mental condition.
- Must need daily assistance with one or more activities of daily living (ADLs).
- Cannot require full-time skilled nursing care
- Cannot be utilizing PCA (personal care assistance) services
- Must be willing to live with your caregiver
- Must be eligible for MassHealth or able to pay privately.
- Caregiver cannot be a spouse or another relative legally responsible for you (Note: *For a minor child, the caregiver cannot be a parent*).

# What is Adult Foster/Family Care?

- ▶ **Offers two levels of care:**
  - ▶ **Level I:** is for people who need daily assistance with at least one of the following activities of daily living (ADL): bathing, dressing, toileting, transferring from one position to another, ambulating (walking or wheelchair assistance), or eating.
  - ▶ **Level II:** is for people who need assistance with three or more ADLs; or two or more ADLs, plus caregiver intervention for one or more of these behaviors: wandering, resisting care, being physically or verbally abusive, or socially inappropriate or disruptive behavior.
- 

# What is Adult Foster/Family Care?

## What is Involved?

- ▶ If the individual is eligible for MassHealth, that will pay for personal care services, service provider fees, and administration costs.
  - ▶ Caregivers receive a tax-free stipend of \$20-\$25 per day for personal care services for Level I, and about \$50 per day for Level II.
  - ▶ MassHealth also pays service providers and program administrators for their services.
  - ▶ Room and board is not included. If the person living a caregiver's home, they must pay the host family a monthly fee for room and board. The fee for room and board is approximately \$450 per month. The caregiver will have a private or semi-private bedroom.
- 

# Adult Family Care: Success Stories

## Katie's and her Family

*"We felt a sigh of relief when we found out about AFC at CLASS. Knowing that the support provides the little extra things that make Katie happy means less stress for us. Having a nurse check her vitals monthly in our home is so reassuring." ...Katie's parents.*



# Adult Family Care

## Rosalie, Kelvin & Elmer's Story

- ▶ *"I am thankful because of the AFC Program Kelvin's health has been stable. The nurse was great! The family economic situation has improved. We were able to move to a nicer apartment and now I am able to pay my rent."....Rosalie, Kelvin and Elmer's mother.*



# Adult Foster/Family Care Contact Information

Stacey Leibowitz  
Director, Family Services  
CLASS, Inc.  
One Parker Street  
Lawrence, MA 01845  
978-975-8587, ext. 1273  
[sleibowitz@classinc.org](mailto:sleibowitz@classinc.org)

Heather Chagnon  
Director, Adult Foster Care  
Greater Waltham Arc  
56 Chestnut Street  
Waltham, MA 02453  
781-899-1344, ext. 4145  
[hchagnon@gwarc.org](mailto:hchagnon@gwarc.org)