

Aging Services Access Points and Long-Term Service Supports

The following information applies to Tufts Health Plan SCO members only:

- [Aging Services Access Points \(ASAPs\) and Geriatric Support Services Coordinators \(GSSCs\)](#)
 - [General Responsibilities](#)
 - [Key Functions of an ASAP for Tufts Health Plan SCO Members](#)
 - [How Tufts Health Plan Works with ASAPs](#)
 - [How SCO Providers Work with ASAPs](#)
- [Long-Term Service Supports \(LTSS\)](#)
 - [Adult Foster Care](#)
 - [Day Habilitation](#)
 - [Group Adult Foster Care \(GAFC\)](#)
 - [Personal Care Attendant \(PCA\) Program](#)
 - [Adult Day Health \(ADH\) Program](#)

Aging Services Access Points (ASAPs) and Geriatric Support Services Coordinators (GSSCs)

To provide home- and community-based services (HCBS) for the geriatric population, Tufts Health Plan contracts with aging services access points (ASAPs) that were established in accordance with Massachusetts state law. These services, which are aimed at helping prevent hospitalization, include:

- Home care programs
- Care management
- Screening
- Authorization activities for certain long-term care services
- Collaboration with the Interdisciplinary Care Team (ICT) in promoting independent functioning of member and providing services in the most appropriate and least restrictive setting

ASAPs use geriatric support services coordinators (GSSCs) to manage these services for Tufts Health Plan SCO members. GSSCs collaborate with the ICT in care planning and service implementation.

General Responsibilities

ASAPs are responsible for providing community services, including:

- Information and referral
- Interdisciplinary case management
- Monitoring of service plans
- Reassessment of needs
- Protective services
- Investigations of abuse and neglect of elders

Key Functions of an ASAP for Tufts Health Plan SCO Members

The ASAP's key functions are to:

- Conduct comprehensive needs assessment(s), when necessary
- Develop a care plan to address unmet needs of the member in conjunction with the ICT
- Purchase services necessary to implement the care plan
- Monitor the effectiveness of the care plan over time

How Tufts Health Plan Works with ASAPs

Tufts Health Plan contracts with ASAPs to assist in coordinating the following services to members:

- Homemaking
- Supportive day care
- Adult day health
- Supportive home care aide
- Laundry service
- Personal emergency response
- Adaptive housing/equipment
- Companion
- Medication dispensing
- Personal care
- Dementia day care
- Home health services
- Home delivered meals
- Emergency shelter
- Transportation
- Grocery shopping/delivery
- Chores
- Wanderer locator
- Vision rehabilitation
- Respite
- Habilitation therapy
- Behavioral health counseling

How SCO Providers Work with ASAPs

As a member of the ICT, the Tufts Health Plan SCO care manager will collaborate with the PCP or other providers to implement an appropriate service plan that meets the member's identified needs.

Long-Term Service Supports (LTSS)

Tufts Health Plan contracts with long-term service support (LTSS) agencies to provide services to Tufts Health Plan SCO members.

Note: Members must meet clinical eligibility requirements.

Adult Foster Care

The adult foster care, also known as adult family care (AFC), program enables a qualified member to receive care in a home-based setting for activities of daily living (ADLs) and instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs). The member and the caregiver must live together.

In conjunction with a Tufts Health Plan SCO care manager, nursing and care management oversight are provided by the AFC agency. Two levels of care are available based on clinical acuity.

Day Habilitation

A program of services, for members with intellectual disabilities, that sets forth measurable goals and objectives; and prescribes an integrated program of activities and therapies necessary to reach the stated goals and objectives.

Group Adult Foster Care (GAFC)

This program provides assistance with ADLs, IADLs, nursing and care management oversight through the GAFC agency. GAFC services must be provided in a qualified group residential setting (assisted living, senior housing, and supportive housing).

All services are provided by the GAFC agency in the member's home. This program provides care up to two hours per day, seven days per week.

Personal Care Attendant (PCA) Program

This program provides training and reimbursement to employ and manage personal care services for qualified members. Services received through the PCA Program are consumer-directed where members have the right to hire, fire, schedule and train their PCA. The PCA program is intended to allow for maximum independence for members in their home environment. To be eligible for this program, the member must have a chronic or permanent disability for which they cannot perform ADLs without physical assistance.

Adult Day Health (ADH) Program

The Adult Day Health Care (ADH) Program is provided through a MassHealth approved ADH provider. The general goal of these services is to provide an organized program of nursing services and supervision, maintenance-therapy services, and socialization.

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