Interested?
Referrals can be made at any time by the beneficiaries or their caregivers. Talk to your treatment team or call the Division of Medicaid for more information. A Community Navigator will schedule a time to visit with qualified Medicaid beneficiaries.

Bridge to Independence is Mississippi’s Money Follows the Person (MFP) initiative, a federal grant funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). MS Money Follows the Person is a 6-year, $42.4 million demonstration grant (Award#1LICMS330831-01-00) funded by CMS in partnership with the MS Division of Medicaid.

Bridge to Independence
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What is Bridge to Independence?
A program built around the core principles of consumer choice and empowerment to assist individuals in facilities in identifying potential community living options.

Who does it serve?
Qualified residents of nursing homes and intermediate care facilities for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities who want to explore community living options.

Bridge to Independence is for persons with physical, mental, developmental, or intellectual disabilities and older adults (65+).

What services may I qualify for?
• Transition Care Management
• Housing Start-Up Costs, which may include:
  - home/utility deposits
  - commodities
  - moving expenses
  - home modifications
• Transportation
• Extended Pharmacy Benefits
• Durable Medical Equipment
• Caregiver and Peer Supports
• Life Skills Training
• Therapy Services
  - physical, speech, occupational
• Safety Planning

How to qualify
Answering yes to the following questions means you may be eligible for Bridge to Independence transition services.
• Have you been a resident of a nursing home or intermediate care facility for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities for at least 90 days?
• Has Medicaid funded at least one day of your stay?
• Are you eligible for Medicaid home and community-based services?

Who will help me transition?
A Community Navigator will lead a team identified by the beneficiary to assist with the transition into the community.

What is a qualified residence?
• A home owned or leased by the participant or his or her family member.
• An apartment with living, sleeping and cooking areas over which the participant or his or her family has control.
• A community residential setting where no more than four unrelated individuals live.

Transition services are available for 365 days following discharge from a qualified facility. After that qualified individuals will continue to receive regular Medicaid services.