

# NEW JERSEY

WINNER *for* CHOICE OF SETTING AND PROVIDER

PACESETTER PRIZE



[The SCAN Foundation](#) created the **Pacesetter Prize** to recognize state efforts to improve long-term services and supports (LTSS) for older adults, people with disabilities, and their family caregivers. Using data from [AARP's LTSS State Scorecard](#), the Pacesetter Prize is awarded in four areas: (1) Affordability and Access, (2) Choice of Setting and Provider, (3) Support for Family Caregivers, and (4) Effective Transitions.

## New Jersey Setting a Strong Pace for Choice of Setting and Provider

New Jersey is a national leader in utilizing managed care to give people needing LTSS more choices of care providers and settings for receiving care. It is a key reason New Jersey is this year's Pacesetter Prize winner in Choice of Setting and Provider. New Jersey improved its ranking in this category from No. 36 in 2017 to No. 19 in 2020. Its overall State Scorecard rank rose from No. 17 to No. 12 during the same time period.

### Success Highlights

- ▶ Launched in 2014, New Jersey's unique [managed long-term services and supports](#) (MLTSS) program greatly increased access to home- and community-based settings (HCBS) for Medicaid-eligible adults with complex care needs by **requiring enrollment in a managed care plan**. [Only 30 percent of LTSS recipients](#) were in HCBS at the program's launch. By 2018, this rose to nearly 50 percent.
- ▶ New Jersey promotes person-centeredness and choice by making personal care services, including self-directed options, available to all Medicaid members based on assessed need. New Jersey's largest self-direction program grew from approximately 9,800 participants in 2016 to more than 18,000 in 2019.
- ▶ New Jersey's Community Care Program is an HCBS waiver program that helps individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities live as independently as possible in the community. Individuals have the choice to self-direct their services and live in their own home with family or friends, or independently. Alternately, they can choose to live in a group home or supervised apartment and have a provider coordinate their services for them.
- ▶ The [Jersey Assistance for Community Caregiving program](#) **provides people ineligible for Medicaid with access to HCBS** and may delay the need for institutional care.

### What's Next for New Jersey?

New Jersey will continue to encourage HCBS, and plans to sustain its [Money Follows the Person program](#), which helps eligible nursing home and developmental center residents transition into a community-based setting. The state will also continue engaging with stakeholders to discuss MLTSS program improvements and expand the number of formal and informal caregivers to continue meeting individuals' LTSS needs at home.