

From Transition to Community Inclusion 2009 Money Follows the Person Conference

The annual Money Follows the Person (MFP) National Conference commenced on March 2, 2009 at the Baltimore Marriot Waterfront Hotel. This three day event hosted over four hundred attendees from across the country to celebrate the success of the Money Follows the Person program as well as educate attendees on the ever emerging obstacles the program and its beneficiaries face.

Conference participants included MFP and Systems Transformation Grant Grantees, consumers who have transitioned through MFP, CMS staff and officials, disability advocates, and the disability community.

The MFP program focus is to transition individuals, who desire to live in their community, from Long Term Care facilities back into a community setting of their choice. The thirty state grantees have partnered with various community based organizations, state agencies and advocacy organizations to implement this Demonstration Grant. Thus far, ninety percent of the state grantees under the MFP program have successfully transitioned the elderly, individuals with physical disabilities, developmental disabilities and mental illness into their respective communities

During this three day event there were twenty-four concurrent sessions' available for participation featuring nationally recognized speakers from a variety of disciplines. The overall theme was community inclusion of MFP consumers. Community inclusion involves an array of areas such as funding, housing, employment, quality care as well as social integration. Participants analyzed the current obstacles that MFP consumers and grantees face in order to successfully transition individuals into the community. While evaluating the obstacles, attendees developed strategies for improvement and shared stories of hope.

Ascellon Corporation was responsible for planning the 2009 Money Follows the Person National Conference. This conference was one of the largest events in MFP history. Ascillon was responsible for handling the conference logistics, including selecting and contracting with an appropriate hotel; maintaining a Summit website; processing registrations; making arrangements for meeting rooms, audiovisual equipment and meals; producing and shipping print materials; managing all onsite activities; and analyzing participant evaluations.

For more information about the conference and to obtain copies of presentations visit:

<http://taformfp.com>.



**For More Information about Ascillon's
Technical Assistance with MFP,
Contact:**

Sheila Scott, Vice President/COO
Phone: 240-737-2025
E-mail: sscott@ascillon.com