



# The Medically Intensive Children's Program

## Helping people live healthier lives.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan provides care management and other services to assist members with complex health care needs. Care management helps these members get the services and care they need. It provides Care Managers to work with the member, the family, the health plan, providers and outside agencies.

### What is the Medically Intensive Children's Program (MICP)?

The Medically Intensive Children's Program (MICP) serves children ages 17 and younger who have complex medical issues that need the support of a registered nurse. Skilled nursing services may be provided in the family home, foster homes, and in contracted medically intensive children's group and staffed residential homes.

### Eligibility Requirements

- Age 17 or younger;
- Have complex medical needs (example, ventilator dependent, tracheostomy care);
- Enrolled in Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) and
- Require at least four hours of continuous skilled nursing care per day.

### Services

- In-home skilled nursing.

### Contact

Member Advocate at **1-877-542-8997, TTY 711**,  
Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**This Medicaid program helps to keep families together. It also greatly reduces the cost of in-patient hospital care where these children would be cared for without this program. Approximately 200 children are supported through the MICP program.**



# Answering your questions about the MICP

## Who do families contact for information and program support?

Contact UnitedHealthcare Community Plan at **1-877-542-8997, TTY 711**, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### If you need help getting private duty nurses:

Health Care Authority Medical Assistance Customer Service Center: **1-800-562-3022**.

## What are individuals' rights regarding private duty nursing services under Medicaid?

The Americans with Disabilities Act gives you or your child the right to receive your Medicaid services in your home or community—rather than a hospital or institution—if possible. The law requires states and Medicaid managed care plans to respond to families' requests for help arranging skilled private duty nursing services. Families must get timely access to these services. If you feel that you aren't getting this access or if you can't find nurses, you have the right to ask the state or the managed care plan to help you get this nursing.

## Who do families contact for legal assistance?

In September 2015, a group of children receiving Medicaid benefits filed a federal lawsuit against the state of Washington. The lawsuit claimed that the state was violating federal Medicaid law and the Americans with Disabilities Act by not providing in-home nursing care. In January 2016, a federal judge issued a preliminary injunction against the state, ordering the state to provide the required in-home nursing care to the plaintiffs.

In December 2016, the plaintiffs and the state reached a settlement of the lawsuit. The settlement requires the state to increase the level of in-home nursing care for eligible Medicaid clients, including sharing this fact sheet with families. For more information, contact the Northwest Justice Project:

- Telephone: **(206) 707-7205**
- Online: **[www.nwjustice.org/ahr](http://www.nwjustice.org/ahr)**

## Which state agencies are involved in running the MICP?

The program is administered by the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) of the Department of Social and Health Services in partnership with the Health Care Authority (HCA) and managed care organizations such as UnitedHealthcare Community Plan (UHCCP).

### UnitedHealthcare Community Plan:

- Is responsible for coordinating and authorizing private duty nurses in coordination with the HCA.
- Provides care management and care coordination services.
- Helps apply for DDA services as appropriate.
- Determines clinical eligibility.
- Assesses the child and determines medically necessary services, including the specific number of hours required and authorized.
- Arranges medically necessary services to ensure timely access.
- Sends you a written authorization letter.

### The HCA:

- Provides oversight to UHCCP for MICP services.
- Helps families who are having difficulty getting private duty nursing services.
- Is responsible for ensuring that children enrolled in Apple Health (Medicaid) get the nursing services they need.

### The DDA:

- Reviews applications for enrollment for waiver services.
- Provides waiver services as requested.

