

D. OTHER PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN**Rare and Expensive Case-Management Program (REM)**

Children under 21 years of age who qualify for enrollment in HealthChoice, and who have certain diseases or medical conditions, may qualify to be enrolled in the *REM Program*.¹ If the child meets the criteria, the family may request enrollment in REM. The Managed Care Organization (MCO) or the Primary Care Provider (PCP) can initiate a referral to the REM program by using the *REM Intake and Referral Form* (Refer Section 5, Addendum). Participation in the REM program is voluntary.

Some examples of diagnoses, which qualify children for the REM Program include spina bifida, cystic fibrosis, hemophilia, congenital anomalies, degenerative disorders, and metabolic and blood disorders. See *Attachment A of the REM Intake and Referral Form* for the current list of diseases and medical conditions (Refer to Section 5, Addendum).

Families electing to have their child enrolled in the REM Program receive services through the Medicaid fee-for-service program rather than through MCOs. Therefore, any Healthy Kids Program certified Medicaid provider could provide preventive care to REM participants. REM participants receive case management services and are eligible for all Medicaid covered services.

For questions about referrals, eligibility, grievances, services and case management call the **REM Program** at **1-800-565-8190**.

Administrative Care Coordination Services

The *Administrative Care Coordinators Units* (ACCU) at the Local Health Departments (LHDs) serve as local resources for information and consultation for Medicaid participants to enhance their access to Medicaid services. The LHDs provide linkages to care and care coordination services to “at risk” pregnant or postpartum women, and children to assist participants with access and utilization of the managed care system and other health related services. Contact the LHD ACCU for information on available services for prenatal, postpartum and child populations (Refer to Section 8).

¹ See <https://mmcp.dhmh.maryland.gov/longtermcare/Pages/REM-Program.aspx>.

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Early Intervention Services

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) Early Childhood Intervention and Education (ECIE) includes the *Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program* (MITP)² and the *Maryland Preschool Special Education Services*³ to assist children with disabilities, from birth through five years of age, and their families.

Maryland Infant and Toddlers Program

The Program provides therapy services and intensive case management for infants and children from birth through 3 years of age who are at-risk of or experiencing developmental delays. There is no financial eligibility requirement. Eligibility is based solely on developmental delay, atypical behavior, or a diagnosed developmental condition. *Maryland's Extended Individualized Family Service Plan* (IFSP) option offers families the choice to remain on an IFSP beyond their child's third birthday, if their child is determined eligible for preschool special education and related services as a child with a disability. The extension of IFSP services beyond the age of three incorporates the strength of the special education/preschool education program with the existing infants and toddlers family-centered model. Obtain more information about services by calling the local *Infants & Toddlers Programs* or the **MSDE Infants & Toddlers Program** at **1-800-535-0182** (Refer to Section 8).

Maryland Preschool Special Education Services

The program provides services for children from 3 years through 5 years of age. Maryland Preschool Services include special instruction and related services provided to young children, who qualify under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA, Part B, section 619). For more information, contact the *Local Child Find* office or the *MSDE Preschool Special Education Services Program* by calling **1-800-535-0182** (Refer to Section 8).

Head Start Program

The Head Start and Early Head Start Programs are federally funded child development programs for children through 4 years of age whose family income is below the federal poverty level. Financial eligibility guidelines for the program are similar to Medical Assistance (MA) and Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP) income guidelines and therefore, the majority of Head Start children should be enrolled in MA or MCHP. Refer to *Section 1* of the Manual for ways to enroll a child in MA/MCHP. For more

² See

http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/earlyinterv/infant_toddlers/about/message.htm

³ See

http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/earlyinterv/infant_toddlers/about/preschool_services.htm

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information, contact the appropriate *Head Start Grantee Agency* that administers the program in different counties (Refer to Section 8).

The Head Start Program requires a full preventive care visit within 90 days of enrollment following the *Maryland Schedule of Preventive Health Care* (Refer to Section 2). A health coordinator at each local Head Start facility is available to help the family comply with health care recommendations.