

## Who is my LCA?

The Centralina Area Agency on Aging is the Local Contact Agency for Region F which includes the following counties:

- Anson
- Cabarrus
- Gaston
- Iredell
- Lincoln
- Mecklenburg
- Rowan
- Stanly
- Union

# Local Contact Agency (LCA)

## What is the Local Contact Agency (LCA)?



The Local Contact Agency is responsible for working with the resident and Nursing Home Staff to discuss options for transitioning to the community by offering contact information for community based services that may facilitate transition once a resident indicates interest in learning more about transitioning home during their assessment (MDS 3.0)



## What does the Local Contact Agency (LCA) do?

- Uses a team approach to transition planning by working with the resident, the Nursing Home Staff and those who support the resident (family or friends)
- Meets with the resident to provide facility based options counseling and to discuss the feasibility of transition
- Collaborates with the resident and Nursing Home Staff to incorporate independent living skills into the resident's care plan
- Shares information and assists with identifying community based resources needed for a safe and successful transition
- Provides follow-up with the resident and staff on the resident's progress leading up to the transition process

## LCA Resource Info:

### Region F LCA Counselor:

Elisa Gregorich  
704-348-2726 or  
[egregorich@centralina.org](mailto:egregorich@centralina.org)

### MDS 3.0 Section Q Referral Line: 1-866-271-4894

### For NC statewide questions:

contact Lorrie Z. Roth the NC  
Community Living Coordinator  
at 919-855-4986 or  
[lorrie.roth@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:lorrie.roth@dhhs.nc.gov)



## **Local Contact Agency (LCA) & The Minimum Data Set**

### **MDS Section Q**

One of the most dramatic changes to the Resident Assessment Instrument is the new Section Q of the Minimum Data Set 3.0 (MDS 3.0) used to develop an individualized plan of care for each person. Section Q includes a question where every resident is asked if they would like information or to talk to someone about potentially moving out of the nursing home and back into the community. This question triggers a planning process that includes referral to a Local Contact Agency (LCA) which will respond by providing information to the resident about community living services and supports.

### **When do I make a referral?**

If while completing Section Q, a resident indicates that they would like information or to talk to someone about potentially moving out of the nursing home and into the community the social worker or MDS Coordinator will call the toll-free number established by the N.C. Office of Long Term Care Supports & The Division of Medical Assistance:

**1-866-271-4894 (M-F 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM)**

Once a referral is made to the toll-free line the MDS call center will send the referral information to the Local Contact Agency for your county. Upon receiving the referral from the MDS call center the LCA counselor will schedule a visit with the resident within 10 days to discuss possible transition options.

### **What do I do if I have questions about the MDS Section Q?**

There are significant changes to the MDS Section Q as of April 2012. If you have questions regarding the MDS Section Q Referral Process, contact the MDS Help Desk:

**MDS Help Desk:**  
919-855-4583 or  
[cindy.deporter@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:cindy.deporter@dhhs.nc.gov)  
[mary.maas@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:mary.maas@dhhs.nc.gov)

# **Local Contact Agency (LCA) & The Minimum Data Set Additional Resources:**

## **North Carolina Division of Medical Assistance**

<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/services/nursingfacility.htm#mds>

## **Resident Assessment Instrument (RAI) Manual– Section Q Changes**

<http://adrc.ne.gov/docs/RAI-Manual-Sec-Q-4-1-12.pdf>

This document highlights the changes in the MDS Section Q effective April 1, 2012.

## **CMS.GOV**

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/NursingHomeQualityInits/MDS30RAIManual.html>

RAI Manual: Section Q begins on Page 442

This links to the full Resident Assessment Instrument Manual. If you have questions regarding the MDS review the RAI manual. The manual has helpful examples to demonstrate the appropriate way to complete Section Q.

## **Money Follows The Person:**

Money Follows the Person is a state demonstration project that assists Medicaid-eligible North Carolinians who live in inpatient facilities to move into their own homes and communities with supports.

<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/MoneyFollows/MFPInfoSheet.pdf>

## **Interested in Learning More?**

Contact Elisa Gregorich, LCA counselor to schedule an in-service for Nursing Home Administrators, Social Workers, MDS Coordinators and other Skilled Nursing Facility staff interested in learning more about the Local Contact Agency, MDS Section Q, Money Follows the Person or Person Centered Discharge Planning.

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