

In 2010, nursing homes across the country began using a new version of the Minimum Data Set, called the MDS 3.0. The MDS 3.0 is the resident assessment tool used by nursing homes for all residents to determine each individual's plan of care. This new version includes a revised Section Q which is designed to identify residents who are interested in talking to someone about available community living supports. For these individuals, nursing home staff will send referrals to Local Contact Agency, or LCA. The LCA will be responsible for contacting residents to discuss community living options.

The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) assigned each state's Medicaid agency the responsibility for selecting a local contact agency (LCA) for nursing homes to refer these individuals to.

For New Hampshire's nursing homes, ServiceLink Aging & Disabilities Resource Center Network is designated the local contact Agency (LCA) , for nursing homes for individuals who are interested in speaking to someone to learn about community living options.

Section Q of the MDS 3.0 is designed to assess each resident's expectation and interest in returning to the community.