

December 18 2025

The Honorable David Livingston
Chairman, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 W Washington St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Chairman Livingston,

Pursuant to Laws 2025, Chapter 93, Section 1, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) and the Department of Economic Security (DES) shall provide to the staff of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee at the end of each calendar quarter, a report on the utilization of attendant care services and habilitation services by parent caregivers under the Parents as Paid Caregivers Program (PPCG). The report shall also include all of the following:

1. The annual growth in the number of parents and members enrolled in the program.
2. The number of emergency department visits and inpatient hospitalizations in the calendar quarter.
3. The approved annual hours delineated by primary diagnosis.
4. How long a member who receives care under PPCG has been enrolled in the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS).

Please note, there are two separate reports; one created by AHCCCS (information below) and the second created by the DES, Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). These two coordinated reports provide a comprehensive review of the PPCG service model and related utilization across the ALTCS Program. DES DDD will provide data specific to the intellectual/developmental disability (I/DD) population served. AHCCCS will provide data specific to the Elderly and/or Physically Disabled (EPD) population served through ALTCS-EPD Managed Care Organizations (MCOs).

This quarterly report serves to provide an update regarding the Agency's data capabilities specific to the information requested and progress towards the established reporting methodology.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Damien Carpenter, Chief Legislative Liaison, at 602-396-0767.

Thank you,



Virginia Rountree
AHCCCS Director

Cc: The Honorable David Farnsworth, Vice Chairman, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Richard Stavneak, Director, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Ben Henderson, Director, Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting
Meaghan Kramer, Health Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor

Background

In May 2024, AHCCCS established a PPCG implementation work group comprised of family members and family advocates, as well as provider, state agency, and health plan representatives. The work group met at a regular meeting cadence to help develop and provide input on policy and form revisions necessary to implement the new PPCG service model, including reviewing materials from other states with similar models. Agenda topics and discussions also included competencies and content for case manager training and consultation on broader stakeholder engagement and communications. Work group members were encouraged to engage in dialogue with AHCCCS staff between meetings to share input, thoughts, and recommendations. The regular meetings concluded when AHCCCS posted policies for public comment in May 2025. AHCCCS is continuing engagement with the work group on an intermittent and as needed basis throughout initial implementation to support AHCCCS in monitoring accurate and consistent application of the new policies and procedures while also maintaining an open dialogue on the PPCG service model with stakeholders.

Current Data Capabilities

As described in the previous quarter's report, AHCCCS is currently transitioning to an in-house electronic visit verification (EVV) aggregator to provide the agency with greater flexibility in oversight and management of EVV compliance and support long-term sustainability and cost savings. Beginning October 1, 2025, EVV vendors will be sending data directly to AHCCCS, including data that identifies live-in caregivers and their relationship to the person being served. This will not only enhance ongoing monitoring and compliance work but will aid in enhanced data to be included in this report. As mentioned in the previous quarter, AHCCCS anticipates that complete live in caregiver data will be available for future reporting in the quarter ending December 31, 2025. Communications sent to stakeholders in February and June 2025 regarding the live-in caregiver data requirements were followed by an invitation to participate in a webinar. All materials are posted to the AHCCCS EVV webpage. Throughout September AHCCCS has engaged providers in data testing sessions to ensure the new system is ready to accept data and that providers do not have any barriers to future reporting. The new system is currently being evaluated by CMS to ensure the functionality aligns with federal reporting requirements.

Utilization of Attendant Care and Habilitation

Based on the limited data currently available, AHCCCS estimates that from October 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025, 214 EPD unique members participated in the PPCG service model with 225 unique parent caregivers being paid to deliver attendant care services. Please note that for the EPD program, habilitation is rarely utilized due to the qualifying nature of members' conditions; attendant care is the predominant parent-delivered service for this population. For this reporting period, there were zero hours of habilitation provided via the PPCG service model.

Proposed Methodology for Future Reporting

AHCCCS has documented the methodology below that the agency will use in subsequent quarterly reports. The data will be reported retrospectively to ensure the most accurate reporting using EVV, authorization, and encounter data. Valid encounter data for inpatient hospitalizations and emergency room visits is available to AHCCCS six (6) months after services are rendered and paid, specifically for inpatient hospitalizations and emergency room visits. For this reason, each quarterly report will be a six-month look back so that the data reflected will be accurate and complete. AHCCCS anticipates to start reporting data beginning with the July 2026 report with a sixth-month look back period beginning October 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.

1. The annual growth in the number of parents and members enrolled in the program.

This data will be provided each quarter along with an annual summary reflective of the state fiscal year. The data will include the number of minor members receiving care from a parent utilizing the PPCG service model at any time during the reporting quarter compared to the number of minor members receiving care from a parent utilizing the PPCG service model at any time during the prior reporting quarter. The report will also include the number of parents providing services to their children at any time during the reporting quarter compared to the previous quarter.

PPCG Utilization (Reflective of MONTH DAY, 20XX – MONTH DAY, 20XX)					
# of Unique Members (Current Quarter)	# of Unique Members (Previous Quarter)	% Change	# of Unique Parent Providers (Current Quarter)	# of Unique Parent Providers (Previous Quarter)	% Change

2. The number of emergency department visits and inpatient hospitalizations in the calendar quarter.

The data will include the count of emergency department visits and inpatient hospitalization stays for members participating in the PPCG service model during the reporting period.

ED/Hospitalization Data for Quarter Ending (Month, Day, Year)

Number of Unique Members Participating in PPCG	Number of Emergency Department Visits for PPCG Participants	Number of Hospitalizations for PPCG Participants

3. **The approved annual hours delineated by primary diagnosis.**

This data will be provided each quarter, along with an annual summary reflective of each state fiscal year. The data will include the sum of the authorized hours for Attendant Care delivered via the PPCG service model, broken down by primary diagnosis (EPD qualifying condition), during the reporting period.

PPCG Annual Attendant Care Authorization, by Qualifying Diagnosis (Reflective of MONTH DAY, 20XX through MONTH DAY, 20XX)	
Qualifying Diagnosis	Quarterly Count of Authorized Attendant Care Hours via PPCG

4. **How long a member who receives care under the PPCG Program has been enrolled in ALTCS.**

This data will include information specific to the average length of time minor members utilizing the PPCG service model during the quarter have been determined eligible for ALTCS. AHCCCS will derive this data by determining the ALTCS eligibility date of all members participating in the PPCG service model in the given quarter and evaluating their eligibility month in comparison with the last month of the reporting quarter. From there, an overall average for each quarter will be calculated and presented in response to this question.