

## **SECTION I.      **General Policies****

- A. Choices for Care (CFC) services shall be based on person-centered planning and shall be designed to ensure quality and to protect the health and welfare of the individuals receiving services.
- B. Choices for Care (CFC) services shall be provided in a cost-effective and efficient manner, preventing duplication of services, unnecessary costs, and unnecessary administrative tasks. The Department shall manage long term care services so as to use resources efficiently, and to maximize the benefits and services available to the greatest number of eligible individuals.
- C. The Department shall administer the “Choices for Care” program in accordance with existing regulations and an Operational Protocol.
- D. Variances to existing regulations and the Operational Protocol may be granted at the discretion of the Department, upon a determination that:
  - 1. Strict compliance would impose a substantial hardship on the individual;
  - 2. Granting the variance will further the goals and general policies of the Waiver; and
  - 3. The variance is necessary to protect or maintain the safety, health and welfare of the individual.
- E. Individuals shall be informed of feasible service alternatives.
- F. Consistent with federal terms and conditions, the Department shall have the authority to implement different elements of the “Choices for Care” program at different times, including different regions of Vermont at different times.