



News Release

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Mary's Center Leads Group Awarded \$15 Million Grant to Reduce Unnecessary Emergency Room Use

Washington, DC -- The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on Friday announced that Mary's Center, a DC-area community health center providing health, education, and social services to over 24,000 participants annually, has been awarded a **\$15 million, three-year grant** for the newly created Capital Clinical Integrated Network (CCIN).

The CCIN will unite a group of Washington, DC, Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs), community health centers, mental health providers, hospitals, health care associations, and health technology specialists to create an innovative patient care model that will improve healthcare delivery and health outcomes while creating savings in care costs that will be shared among network members.

The CCIN will target the chronically ill within the population of Medicaid MCO patients who do not seek regular medical care at a health home, but instead use expensive services such as emergency department visits. Care Teams led by nurses and staffed by social workers and Community Health Workers (CHWs) will identify target patients, create care plans for them based on data analysis, connect them to medical homes to facilitate and manage their care, and assign individual CHWs to work with each patient to support adherence to the care plan, particularly relating to controllable chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension and asthma, COPD as well as co-occurring mental illness and high-risk pregnancy.

Though Mary's Center served as the primary applicant for the grant, the project will have its own dedicated governing body, and the grant from CMS will cover all operational costs. The total amount of the three-year grant is \$14,991,005, and projected savings to the community are \$17,712,000, resulting from reduction in duplicative services (such as clinician visits, prescriptions and lab tests), fewer hospitalizations and lower transportation costs. Over the course of three years, 10,800 patients will participate in the program and 51.5 new jobs will be created.

Partners in the CCIN are: Chartered Health Plan, Cisco, CoreBTS, DC Behavioral Health Association, DC Primary Care Association, Green Door, *La Clinica del Pueblo*, Mary's Center, Providence Hospital, So Others May Eat, United Healthcare, and Unity Health Care.

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About Mary's Center: Founded in 1988, Mary's Center is a federally qualified health center that provides health care, family literacy and social services to 24,000 individuals whose needs too often go unmet by the public and private systems. Mary's Center uses a holistic, multipronged approach to help each participant access individualized services that set them on the path toward good health, stable families, and economic independence. The Center offers high-quality, professional care in a safe and trusting environment to residents from the entire DC metropolitan region, including individuals from over 90 countries.
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