



State Innovation Models Initiative: State Healthcare Innovation Planning Grant

Idaho Overview

Overview

In March 2013 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) awarded Idaho a \$3 million grant to develop a State Healthcare Innovation Plan (SHIP). Sponsored by Governor Otter, this six-month planning grant is an exciting opportunity for Idaho to begin to redesign its health care system. CMS' goal is to promote "Governor-sponsored, multi-payer healthcare delivery and payment models that will have broad stakeholder engagement, will be set in the context of broader state innovation, and will achieve sustainable delivery system transformation that significantly improves health system performance." The general approach that resonates with Idaho is improved integration of primary care/patient-centered medical homes within the larger health care system.

Planning Process Structure

At the Governor's request, the grant will be administered by the Department of Health and Welfare. A project steering committee, composed of stakeholders representing various aspects of Idaho's health care system, will guide the project. Under the direction of the steering committee, Mercer Health and Benefits, LLC (Mercer - a consulting firm with experience facilitating system-wide health care service delivery planning and implementation initiatives) will convene and facilitate four work groups with broad stakeholder representation. The four workgroups will focus on:

- Network structure and medical home integration
- Data sharing, interconnectivity, analytics and reporting
- Quality improvement
- Multi-payer reimbursement strategies

The planning process will involve Idaho stakeholders conducting a statewide assessment of our current health care delivery and payment system, and designing a new health care model that builds upon existing systems, initiatives, and programs. Numerous meetings with focus groups across the State are anticipated; they should add local insight to the health care needs of Idahoans in a variety of settings. The final plan will describe the proposed model and will include current and proposed performance outcome methods and measures, as well as projected savings. Under the direction of the Department of Health and Welfare, and the project's steering committee, Mercer will also draft the State Healthcare Innovation Plan.

The planning process will build upon work already done here in Idaho by stakeholders serving on the Governor's multi-payer Idaho Medical Home Collaborative (IMHC). Since the IMHC's creation in 2010, dedicated stakeholders representing commercial and public payers, providers, employers, and consumers have worked together to design and develop the medical home model for Idaho. A multi-payer medical home pilot is now underway, implementing the medical home model in primary care settings across the State. The IMHC will be closely involved with the development of the SHIP, with many current IMHC stakeholders being invited to serve on the project steering committee and/or the four workgroups.

Next Steps

The grant's six-month planning timeline is intensive, beginning in May 2013 and ending with a final plan on October 30, 2013. The kick-off meeting will be the first significant step in the planning process. Attendees will help Mercer develop a comprehensive work plan with specific timelines, which will guide the planning activity.

Following this model design phase, Idaho will be eligible to apply to CMS for a Model Testing Grant. If funded, Idaho will receive significant resources to implement the newly developed SHIP.