



## Lessons in Program Design and Early Implementation

The first states to launch health homes have completed their third year of implementation. These early adopters of Medicaid health homes learned important lessons about designing and implementing health homes for individuals with complex care needs that could inform other states considering this model. Early adopter states found that they could use the flexibilities within the health home option to advance their policy goals. They also used their knowledge and experience working with complex populations to guide design of their health home services, and they thoughtfully aligned payment models with policy goals to advance payment modernization. Finally, as the early adopter states implemented their programs, they found they needed to support health home providers to achieve culture change and invest in access to real-time data to support effective care coordination.<sup>2</sup>

### Support for States Pursuing Health Homes

Health homes can serve as a foundation to build more advanced systems of care, such as accountable care organizations, and to adopt more sophisticated payment methods, like episode-of-care or bundled payments. States may request federal planning funds – at their medical assistance service match rate – to support health home program design. For some states, this match rate is higher than they would receive through administrative match, and therefore, is worthwhile to pursue.<sup>3</sup> Technical assistance is available from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' [Health Home Information Resource Center](#) to assist state Medicaid agencies in developing and implementing health home models tailored to their unique goals and needs.

Medicaid Health Home Enrollment		
STATE	MODEL FOCUS	ENROLLEES
Alabama	Chronic medical conditions and SMI	72,916
Idaho	Chronic medical conditions and SMI	8,961
Iowa	Chronic medical conditions	6,159
	SMI	20,900
Kansas	SMI	27,234
Maine	Chronic medical conditions	50,095
	SMI	2,069
Maryland	SMI & SUD	4,887
Michigan	SMI	475
Missouri	Chronic medical conditions	17,110
	SMI	21,248
New Jersey	SMI (adult)	--
	SED (child)	--
New York	Chronic medical conditions and SMI	158,460
North Carolina	Chronic medical conditions	559,839
Ohio	SMI	14,181
Oklahoma	SMI (adult)	4,029
	SED (child)	1,320
Rhode Island	Chronic medical conditions and SMI	1,995
	SMI	6,772
	SUD	2,340
South Dakota	Chronic medical conditions and SMI	6,138
Vermont	SUD	4,924
Washington	Chronic medical conditions and SMI	52,656
West Virginia	SMI	934
Wisconsin	HIV/AIDS	233
<b>Total health home enrollees</b>		<b>1,045,875</b>

SOURCE: Data as of May 2015 except for North Carolina (as of July 2013). New Jersey not yet reporting data. See: [Health Home Information Resource Center](#). Note that Oregon has withdrawn its Medicaid health home SPA.

SED = serious emotional disturbance SMI = serious mental illness  
SUD = substance use disorder

<sup>1</sup> Oregon had Medicaid health homes, but it chose to end the program at the end of its federal match period and has withdrawn its 2703 state plan amendment.

<sup>2</sup> Early adopting states were Iowa, New York, Missouri, Oregon, and Rhode Island. See: Moses K. and Ensslin B. *Seizing the Opportunity: Early Medicaid Health Home Lessons*. Center for Health Care Strategies, March 2014. Available at: [http://www.chcs.org/media/Seizing\\_the\\_Opportunity\\_Early\\_Medicaid\\_Health\\_Home\\_Lessons.pdf](http://www.chcs.org/media/Seizing_the_Opportunity_Early_Medicaid_Health_Home_Lessons.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> States interested in a planning grant should submit a *Letter of Request* of no more than two pages describing their health home planning activities, with an estimated budget to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Letters of request should be sent via email to [healthhomes@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:healthhomes@cms.hhs.gov). For more information see: Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS). State Medicaid Director Letter #10-024. Health Homes for Enrollees with Chronic Conditions. November 16, 2010. Available at: <http://downloads.cms.gov/cmsgov/archived-downloads/SMDL/downloads/SMD10024.pdf>.