

2014-15 Executive Budget Medicaid Proposals Health Home-Criminal Justice Linkage Pilots

Proposal Description

- Health Homes are a cornerstone initiative of the MRT “Care Management for All”. This initiative focuses on the Medicaid “super users” who have two or more chronic conditions, HIV/AIDS, or those with persistent severe mental illness. Thirty-two Health Homes are in active operation in New York at this time. There is also currently a pilot Health Home project addressing the needs of the recently released inmate.
- A significant portion of the incarcerated population meets the diagnostic and risk criteria for Health Homes. Some of these persons are on suspended Medicaid while incarcerated; some were uninsured. Because of their limited claims history within the Medicaid system, their identification for Health Homes can be delayed, increasing risk for hospitalization, repeating criminal activities and incarceration. Early identification of this population will smooth their transition to Medicaid, health care services and community stability, reducing significantly the costs of reinstitutionalization in any form.
- Specifically this Budget request requests funding for
 - 1) Development of a liaison service from the HH pilots to be placed in state and local correctional facilities.
 - 2) Criminal Justice service providers to develop HIT infrastructure to integrate services with Health Homes.
 - 3) Criminal Justice and Health Homes Learning Collaborative for the provision of training, technical assistance, and sharing of best practices.
 - 4) Expansion of current pilot scope and number of pilots.
- A study by the Pew Charitable Trusts’ Center suggests that cutting recidivism by 10% in New York State would save the state \$42 million.
(<http://www.pewstates.org/research/reports/state-of-recidivism-85899377338>)

Benefits of Proposal

- Reducing recidivism by improving transition to the community from the criminal justice system will reduce Medicaid, DOCJ and DOCCS costs.
- Improved linkages between Health Homes and the criminal justice system will improve engagement of a population with significant medical and behavioral health issues.

- Health Home liaisons in the criminal justice system will assist in appropriate identification of candidates, speed procurement of active Medicaid, and allow preparation time to identify needed services so a “warm transfer” to these services can occur.
- Sharing best practices will support efficiency in the program development.