

Community-Based Collaborative Care Networks Grant Program

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to offer grants beginning in 2011 to eligible entities to support community-based collaborative care networks for low-income populations. This grant program, while authorized in the legislation, has not been appropriated any funding within the federal budget for FY2013.

What is a community-based collaborative care network?

A community-based collaborative care network is a consortium of health care providers with a joint governance structure that provides comprehensive coordinated and integrated health care services for low-income populations. A network, to be grant-eligible, must include at least a hospital and all federally qualified health centers in the community.

What can the grant funds be used for?

The grant funds can be used to:

- Assist low-income individuals to access and appropriately use health services; enroll in health coverage programs; and obtain a regular primary care provider or a medical home.
- Provide case management and care management.
- Perform health outreach using neighborhood health workers or through other means.
- Provide transportation.
- Expand capacity, including through tele-health, after-hours services or urgent care.
- Provide direct patient care services.

What are the characteristics of grant applications that will receive priority?

The Secretary is to give priority to networks that include the capability to provide the broadest range of services to low-income individuals and includes the broadest range of providers that currently serve a high volume of low-income individuals. Further priority will be given to grant applicants that include a county or municipal department of health.

What is the significance of these community-based collaborative care network grants to practices?

Some of these networks might contract with private primary care practices in their area to provide required services.

What is the current status of the Community-Based Collaborative Care Networks Grant Program?

This grant program, while authorized under the ACA, has not been funded as of October, 2013.