

Innovations in Care Coordination for Children and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Other DD Conditions

OVERVIEW

On January 4th, the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFA) for projects under the Innovations in Care Coordination for Children and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Other Developmental Disabilities (DD) Program. The goal of this program is to improve access to coordinated and integrated care for children with, or at risk for, ASD/DD and their families in federally-designated Medically Underserved Areas (MUAs) by implementing family navigation and provider training projects. Through this program, administered by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), HRSA will allocate a total of \$1.86 million in funding per year for four years to up to five organizations to operate such projects.

Applications are due on March 8th. The full NOFA is attached.

FUNDING

Up to \$372,000 per program annually will be allocated to up to five organizations through this program. Funding includes both direct and indirect costs, facilities, and administrative costs per year. There is no cost sharing or matching requirement for this program.

Contracts will last for four years beginning September 1, 2019.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Any domestic public or private entity serving a MUA is eligible to apply for funding under this program, including faith-based and other community-based organizations.

Targeted MUAs should include a baseline of at least 500 children with or at risk for ASD/DD. A list of eligible MUAs is available on the HRSA website [here](#).

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Awardees will implement family navigation services and create learning communities for families affected by ASD/DD. Family navigation projects will involve performing time-limited case management activities that focus on overcoming patient-specific barriers to care, while learning community projects will educate local primary care, specialty, and community-based providers on ASD/DD.

The program's objectives are to increase by 25 percent the following metrics in the targeted MUA(s):

- Number of children with or at risk for ASD/DD who are receiving family navigator services;
- Proportion of families of children with or at risk for ASD/DD that report self-efficacy in navigating the system of care for ASD/DD;
- Percentage of children with or at risk for ASD/DD receiving simultaneous referrals to comprehensive developmental screenings and early intervention services before 3 years of age;
- Percentage of children with or at risk for ASD/DD enrolled in community-based services and supports before 3 years of age; and

- Percent of primary care, specialty, and community-based providers implementing care coordination for children with or at risk for ASD/DD.

Each awardee will have the following responsibilities as part of their project:

- Identify target population(s) and primary care sites;
- Implement family navigation services;
- Create and implement a learning community of primary care, specialty and community-based providers, and families;
- Develop and expand partnerships with diverse stakeholders that serve the target population;
- Collaborate with HRSA MCHB Autism CARES Recipients; and
- Develop a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan.

APPLICATION

Applications will be scored based on the following criteria:

- Need (10 points)
- Response (35 points)
- Evaluative Measures (20 points)
- Impact (15 points)
- Resources/Capabilities (15 points)
- Support Requested (5 points)

The highest ranked applicants based on the above criteria will be considered for awards. HRSA may also consider geographic distribution, risk assessment, and other factors. In particular, to ensure adequate geographic distribution, HRSA will make only one award per state.

Timeline

Applications are due on March 8th. There will be a technical assistance webinar on January 17th at 3pm. Interested parties may call 1-888-995-9168 (code: 4538514) and access the weblink [here](#).

Questions related to technical assistance, administrative, or fiscal issues may be submitted to Hazel Natosha Booker at NBooker@hrsa.gov. Questions related to overall program issues and/or technical assistance may be submitted to Leticia Manning at LManning@hrsa.gov.