

## **Region VII AAA Community Care Organization Pilot**

Region VII Area Agency on Aging (Region VII AAA) proposes the following legislative solution for a pilot project that potentially achieves cost neutrality for Michigan's Medicaid programs by returning surplus funds to participant services, and by exemplifying the value of health care using a Single Point of Service Community Care Organization (CCO) to manage the fiduciary function and contracts for the Medicaid dollars that flow into the Governor's Prosperity Regions 5 and most of 6. This includes Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac and Tuscola counties.

A core responsibility of the Community Care Organization will be Care Management. The pilot will enable the population to receive enhanced services beyond direct medical services by coordinating all the needed care under one umbrella organization. This proposed program design seeks to implement Medicaid managed care in a way that advances high-value care in the home setting, improves population health, engages and supports providers, and establishes a sustainable program with predictable costs. The goal is to improve the health of the population through an innovative, whole-person centered, and well-coordinated system of care, which addresses both medical and non-medical drivers of health. Research shows that while access to high-quality health care is vital, up to 70% of health outcomes are tied to non-medical social determinants, such as healthy food, safe housing, reliable transportation, employment supports, and community supports.<sup>1</sup>

The newly established CCO will operate and provide oversight to Community Health Centers (CHC) and Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) offering medical, dental, behavioral health, telehealth, hospice care, skilled care services, Pharm D services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and housing services in each county of the pilot area.

The CCO will also provide or partner with organizations for case management, community clinics, community transportation, and in-home care. The CCO will partner with county commissions on aging which will enable local county millages to supplement and be used to provide in-home help, home-delivered meals, patient education, and caregiver training.

The CCO will contract with an established health insurance company to facilitate Medicaid billing mechanisms, keep client records, and record acuity information of all patients served. This approach will promote value in the health care system and achieve cost neutrality to State of Michigan's Medicaid programs. By partnering with the CCO, the client's well-being becomes the primary investment instead of shareholder's profits.

The CCO's *Provider Support Center* will manage the vendor relationship, data collection, and ensure an adequate and well-trained workforce. This hub will ease administrative barriers and streamline care options for the population served.

<sup>1</sup> McGinnis JM, Williams-Russo P, Knickman JR. The case for more active policy attention to health promotion. *Health Aff (Millwood)* 2002;21:78–93

Galea S, Tracy M, Hoggatt KJ, Dimaggio C, Karpati A. Estimated deaths attributable to social factors in the United States. *Am J Public Health*. 2011;101:1456–65. Galea S, Tracy M, Hoggatt KJ, Dimaggio C, Karpati A. Estimated deaths attributable to social factors in the United States. *Am J Public Health*. 2011;101:1456–65.

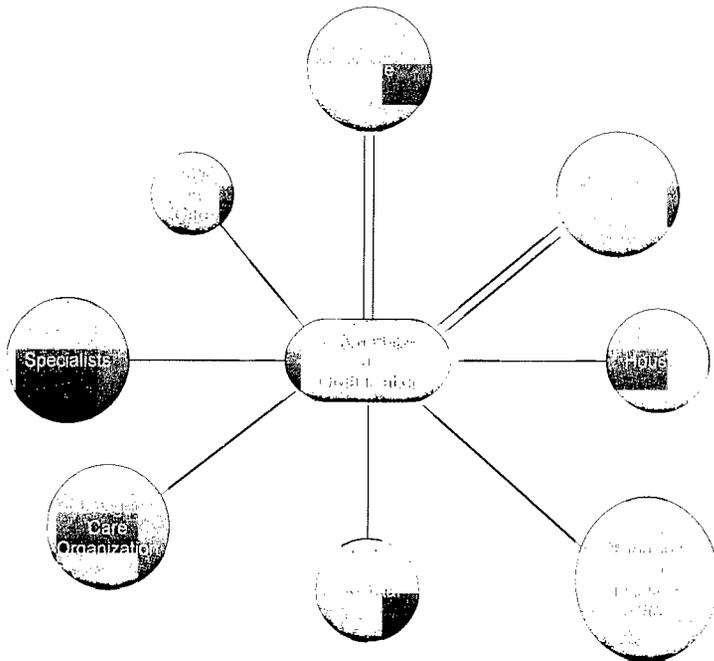
Region VII AAA is a not for profit 501(c)3 community-based organization and a member of Michigan's Area Agency on Aging network. Region VII AAA manages millions of Older American Act, Older Michiganian's Act and Medicaid home and community-based funds which are utilized to coordinate, manage, distribute and oversee a network of service providers who deliver home and community services for older adults and persons with disabilities in a region that aligns with the geographic footprint in this proposal.

The agency has well-established, longstanding working relationships with community leaders, hospital and healthcare administrators, nursing homes, human service collaborative bodies, health departments, county human service offices, public-private businesses, and not-for-profit human service organizations and the capacity to launch a CCO for the purpose of managing all Medicaid funds coming into the pilot area. This proposal is based on the State of North Carolina's *Carolina Complete Health* program which formed in 2017 between the state CHC association and *Centene*, a Fortune 500 company that works for government agencies around the U.S. organizing and managing care for Medicaid patients.

Sponsor of bill: *Representative Edward J. Canfield, D.O. - 84<sup>th</sup> District*

Special name of bill: *Establish a Medicaid Community Care Organization*

Description of bill: *Appropriations; Department of Health and Human Services; shift Medicaid funding for Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac and Tuscola counties to a newly created Community Care Organization formed by the Region VII Area Agency on Aging for coordination of contracts, service delivery, and fiduciary oversight.*



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