

SUPPORT Act Section 1003: Planning Grants for the Demonstration Project to Increase Substance Use Disorder Provider Capacity

State Medicaid Agency: Alabama

Key Focus Populations: Pregnant, postpartum, prenatal women, and infants (including those with neonatal abstinence syndrome); adolescents and young adults between the ages of 12 and 21; and people living in rural areas

Funding Amount: \$5,000,000

Program Areas of Focus¹: The information below summarizes the grantee's initial areas of focus through the planning grant awards, which are to:

- Develop statewide focus groups and online surveys to solicit input from consumers, providers, family members, and stakeholders to develop an initial assessment of provider capacity, including provider willingness and barriers to treating substance use disorder (SUD).
- Establish a data repository which builds upon other state Medicaid databases to create an Alabama Department of Mental Health (ADMH) substance use data management information system.
- Develop electronic health record (EHR) capability to better identify hot spots and define provider treatment protocols that work best to expand provider participation options and processes through use of telehealth technologies, such as telepsychiatry, opioid use disorder (OUD) services, and community wrap around services.

¹ The purpose of the planning grants is to increase the capacity of Medicaid providers to deliver SUD treatment or recovery services through:

- An ongoing assessment of the substance use disorder treatment needs of the state;
- Recruitment, training, and technical assistance for Medicaid providers that offer substance use disorder treatment or recovery services; and
- Improved reimbursement for and expansion of the number or treatment capacity of Medicaid providers.