

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

**State Medicaid Agency:** Rhode Island

**Key Focus Populations:** Medicare-Medicaid dual-eligibles; Medicaid members with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders (SUD); and adolescents and young adults between the ages of 12 and 21

**Funding Amount:** \$3,482,368

**Program Areas of Focus<sup>1</sup>:** The information below summarizes the grantee's initial areas of focus through the planning grant awards, which are to:

- Complete a comprehensive behavioral health system review of the state to determine the unmet need for SUD services. This will include implementable action plans that the state can carry out to achieve improved provider capacity in Rhode Island.
- Develop rate models for the state's SUD rates in order to determine appropriate and efficient payments for associated services.
- Provide technical assistance to SUD providers for a wide variety of capacity-building initiatives, such as the development and conducting of trainings to enhance the workforce, as well as assistance with barriers to care that are agency-specific.
- Enable SUD providers to access consumer engagement software and carry out measurement-based care. This health information technology investment will improve providers' ability to use data-driven strategies to target specific areas of patient performance.
- Incorporate telemedicine into SUD provider agencies to allow for improved care and more efficient workflow. This could include enabling medication assisted treatment induction via telehealth or offsite psychiatric consultations.
- Engage community organizations to develop culturally and linguistically appropriate/responsive services, Career Pathways, and a mentorship program to provide opportunities for English language learners and recent immigrants and refugees with low English proficiency to become part of the behavioral health workforce, with a focus on organizations that provide treatment and/or recovery support for SUD.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.