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Friday, July 08, 2011

**Contact:** CMS Office of Public Affairs  
202-690-6145**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCE CENTER AVAILABLE TO STATES  
RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO ALL STATES TO COORDINATE CARE FOR HIGH-COST,  
HIGH-NEED BENEFICIARIES**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services announced it is establishing a resource center to assist States in delivering coordinated health care to high-need, high-cost beneficiaries. This resource will provide technical assistance to States at all levels of readiness to better serve beneficiaries, improve quality and reduce costs.

The resource center will assist the CMS Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office and the Center for Medicaid, CHIP and Survey & Certification as they work with States to more effectively promote innovative approaches to delivering coordinated health care to beneficiaries including those with chronic conditions and/or eligibility for both the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

The focus will be to provide technical assistance to States in promoting seamless coordinated care and reducing costs to achieve positive individual and population outcomes. The Resource Center will provide technical assistance to States at all levels of readiness.

Examples of the types of assistance that will be provided by the Resource Center include:

- Conducting needs assessment and gap analysis to identify opportunities for improvement in States' existing healthcare delivery systems;
- Providing technical assistance in areas including program design, stakeholder engagement, data, and health information technology;
- Facilitating sharing of best practices across States; and
- Developing resources to support States' efforts to coordinate primary, acute, behavioral health, and long-term supports and services for high-need, high-cost individuals, including Medicare-Medicaid enrollees.

Specific resources will be available to States interested in participating in the newly announced demonstration to test financial models to support care coordination for Medicare-Medicaid enrollees, States considering the health home option under Medicaid, and the fifteen States participating in the *State Demonstrations to Integrate Care for Dual Eligible Beneficiaries* design contract.

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