

## **Federal Innovation Grants Available for Health Care Innovation**

As you may know, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) recently announced a challenge to fund innovative projects that will model the most compelling new ideas to deliver better health, improved care and lower costs to people enrolled in Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP, particularly those with the highest health care needs.

CMMI set aside \$1 billion in funding for such projects nationally. Letters of intent to apply for grant funding are due to CMMI by Dec. 19 and applications are due Jan. 27, 2012.

Eligible applicants include: provider groups, health systems, payers and other private sector organizations, faith-based organizations, local governments, public-private partnerships, tribal governments, academic medical centers, and for-profit and nonprofit entities. Successful models must include some element of workforce development or redesign, and applicants must demonstrate that the model can generate savings on total cost of care for a specific population.

For more information on the Health Care Innovation Challenge, [visit CMMI's website \(http://innovations.cms.gov/initiatives/innovation-challenge\)](http://innovations.cms.gov/initiatives/innovation-challenge).

Given Oregon's path to transform the health-delivery system, this is an exciting opportunity. To that end, the Oregon Health Authority is interested in learning about and supporting the efforts of communities planning to compete for these grant dollars.

### **We hope to:**

- Provide connections with state activities to support this effort where appropriate.
- Coordinate requests for letters of support from applicants.
- Connect communities with similar projects to explore partnerships and to maximize the funding and the benefit to Oregon.

The Health Authority is committed to supporting efforts that boost Oregon's priority strategies around health system transformation, including Coordinated Care Organizations, addressing health disparities, and implementing a health insurance exchange and patient-centered primary care homes. If you are planning on responding to the competition, we ask that you please share with us:

- A brief description (one to two paragraphs) of your intended project.
- The name and contact information for the person from your organization with whom we can speak about your project.
- Any requests you have around assistance from the State of Oregon or requests for collaboration with other entities.

### **Please email this information to:**

Tracy Gratto, Delivery System Reform Manager, OHA Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research, at [tracy.gratto@state.or.us](mailto:tracy.gratto@state.or.us) by Dec. 16, 2011. We will review your materials and respond as soon as possible.