State Innovation Model (SIM) Grant

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation awarded a State Innovation Model (SIM) grant to Oregon for up to $45 million for three and a half years. Oregon was one of six states to receive the grant for testing innovative approaches to improving health and lowering costs across the health care system, including Medicaid, Medicare, and the private sector.

Grant Narrative Excerpt:

Aligning health and education system reform: Oregon's Governor Kitzhaber has launched a significant process of reforming the state's education system from pre-K to the college level. The opportunity to align health and education system reform in Oregon can dramatically contribute to short- and long-term improvements in health outcomes for children and is a primary prevention strategy. The state has set a goal of universal kindergarten readiness among Oregon children, which is dependent on both health and education system innovations. Oregon's Early Learning Council recently adopted a statewide Kindergarten Readiness Assessment that will be broadly implemented in 2013. The Transformation Center will partner with the Early Learning Council to test innovative delivery models and collaborations at the community level between CCOs, education, and social service partners that result in improved kindergarten readiness to test this expansion of Oregon's model to link more closely with Oregon's education system.