

Washington State's Community Health Access and Rural Transformation (CHART) Model

Overview

In September 2021, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that Washington State will receive a \$5 million CHART Model grant. This model is a cooperative agreement between the Health Care Authority (HCA)—the Lead Organization—and CMS' Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation.

The CHART Model seeks to transform the health care system in rural communities in the **North Central region of Washington State** (representing Chelan, Douglas, Grant, and Okanogan counties).

Goals

HCA will work with Participant Hospitals to test an innovative value-based payment for Medicare and Medicaid and lead the development and implementation of a Community Transformation Plan in consultation with an Advisory Council. HCA will also work with Participant Hospitals, North Central Accountable Community of Health (NCACH), and other community partners to:

- Increase access to equitable, coordinated, high-quality whole-person care.
- Increase population health by building healthier communities and connecting local and regional partners.
- Reduce costs across all payers.

Timeline

The CHART Model spans seven years, from October 1, 2021–December 31, 2028, including a pre-implementation planning year that begins October 1, 2021. HCA will begin negotiations with CMS soon to finalize the cooperative agreement. The next phase of work won't begin until an agreement is signed.

About Participant Hospitals

All critical access hospitals and acute care hospitals located in North Central are eligible and invited to participate in the CHART Model. Several have expressed interest in working with HCA and CMS on rural transformation through this model.

About the Advisory Council

The Advisory Council will consult with HCA on its model activities, including:

- Providing feedback during the development and implementation of the Community Transformation Plan.
- Supporting collaborative efforts with Participating Hospitals and other community partners and stakeholders.

HCA Chief Medical Officer Judy Zerzan-Thul, MD and NCACH Chief Executive Officer Linda Parlette will co-chair the council.