

## The Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers

The Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers (Camden Coalition) is a nonprofit coalition of health care providers, community partners, and advocates in Camden, New Jersey, whose mission is to improve the wellbeing of individuals facing the most complex health and social challenges. The Camden Coalition has dedicated itself to finding ways to provide better care at lower costs by innovating and testing health care delivery models using data-driven and human-centered practices.<sup>1</sup> In 2014, The Camden Coalition launched the **Good Care Collaborative** in an effort to address the systemic and policy barriers and gaps at the state level that impact care for individuals facing the most complex health and social challenges.

*As the federal and state government look to reform the Medicaid system, the next gubernatorial administration has the opportunity to set a national example for the Medicaid program.* We highlight below strategic policy opportunities to improve quality, outcomes, and efficiencies in New Jersey's Medicaid program (background information and recommendations are provided in the full position papers). Although these recommendations are focused on individuals with the most complexity, the lessons from this work may be applied to the broader Medicaid population, as well as beneficiaries across payor types.

### **1. COMMUNITY-BASED MEDICAID ACCOUNTABLE CARE ORGANIZATIONS;**

#### **Advance a community-based, data-driven model to improve population health**

The incoming administration should support a statewide movement to advance the development of community-based, data-driven entities, focused on improving the coordination and delivery of care, that improve population health initiatives for some of our state's most vulnerable individuals. The Community-Based Medicaid Accountable Care Organizations in Camden, Trenton, and Newark, have built a strong foundation for this work. *Position paper attached.*

### **2. COMMUNITY-BASED CARE MANAGEMENT SERVICES; Support community-based care management services for individuals facing health and social challenges**

The incoming administration should support community-based care management services for individuals with complex health and social needs, and move away from less effective telephonic care management. Evidence shows that care management programs are associated with improved quality of life. *Position paper attached.*

### **3. HOUSING FIRST; Develop a coordinated statewide approach to providing sustainable, low barrier, supportive housing for homeless individuals experiencing high utilization of the health care system**

The incoming administration should invest in the Housing First model as an effective health care intervention for individuals with complex health and social needs. To date, the preliminary findings from Camden City's Housing First Pilot Program demonstrate a 60 percent reduction in health care utilization per days at risk after medically and socially complex patients receive housing. *Position paper attached.*

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<sup>1</sup> To find out more about the Camden Coalition, please see the Camden Coalition Overview paper.

**4. *THE INTEGRATED DATA PROJECT*; Fully implement and actively engage with the Integrated Population Health Data Project, an integrated data project being operationalized by the Rutgers Center for State Health Policy**

The incoming administration should fully harness the power of the Integrated Population Health Data (iPHD) Project to allow for more comprehensive and smarter policy-making. Linking different datasets that already exist within social service programs is integral for a holistic understanding of patient needs and gaps in the system. When realized to its full potential, the iPHD Project will serve as a powerful tool to advance health and public system goals, and ultimately improve population health across New Jersey. Across the country, integrated data solutions similar to the iPHD Project have been catalysts to smart policy-making tackling some of the most expensive and complicated health issues facing our country. *Position paper attached.*

**5. *TRANSPORTATION*; Improve oversight and the quality of non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT), a required Medicaid service that provides transportation to health care appointments for beneficiaries**

The incoming administration should ensure quality NEMT for Medicaid beneficiaries. Evidence shows that access to reliable and quality transportation improves health outcomes and reduces the use of emergency services and costs. A 2016 federal audit found that the New Jersey NEMT program did not meet State requirements, were of poor quality, and was overpaid. *Position paper attached.*

**6. *OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY*; Improve public oversight of our Medicaid system to ensure quality for vulnerable Medicaid patients and efficiency and accountability for our state's taxpayers**

The incoming administration should strengthen oversight and accountability of our state's Medicaid system. We are in the process of researching administrative models in other states that have sought to improve accountability and oversight while also improving quality and efficiency. We also support New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute's recommendation for the development of a New Jersey Office of Health Transformation. *Webinar to follow.*