

Advancing Health Equity: A Multi-Year, National Learning Collaborative

The Institute for Medicaid Innovation (IMI), [University of Chicago](#), [Center for Health Care Strategies](#), and [The Justice Collective](#) are partners in a multi-year national initiative, “Advancing Health Equity (AHE): Leading Care, Payment & Systems Transformation” funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The AHE Learning Collaborative identifies best practices, implements innovative initiatives, and supports policy recommendations for integrating payment and health care delivery reforms that seek to eliminate health care disparities and achieve equity.

Guided by a Comprehensive Roadmap

AHE is guided by its comprehensive [AHE Roadmap to Advance Health Equity](#), that integrates the creation of a [culture of equity](#) with the technical steps required for organizations to: [identify inequities](#); determine the [root causes of those inequities](#); and [design](#) and [implement](#) care delivery interventions and [payment models](#) to support and sustain them.

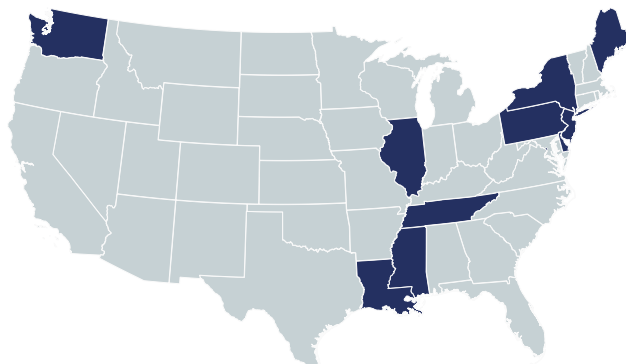
Backed by extensive research and years of first-hand, practical experience, the Roadmap to Advance Health Equity is designed to aid organizations in the development of initiatives that are tailored to their specific populations and address inequities based on their available resources. It provides a critical framework for organizations to implement equity-focused quality improvement programs simultaneously or in conjunction with other efforts.



Teams Drive Reforms

Teams composed of representatives from state Medicaid agencies, Medicaid health plans, health care delivery organizations, and community partners work together to design health care delivery reforms supported by tailored payment models to reduce health disparities. Driving the work is a commitment to cultures of equity and addressing social drivers of health to generate sustainable practices and policy recommendations for national dissemination.

In 2019, through a competitive, national application process, [seven state teams](#) were selected and began the first iteration of the learning collaborative. In just one example, the Illinois state team seeks to align resources and programming to provide housing and housing tenancy support for persons with complex health needs who are unhoused. One outcome saw the County Care Health plan investing \$5 million in tenancy, support, rent and associated housing costs for 67 members.



In 2023, [five additional teams](#) joined the next iteration of the collaborative. More information and detailed team profiles can be found on the [AHE Learning Collaborative page](#).

Technical Assistance to Ensure Success

AHE offers technical assistance and capacity building services to the learning collaborative teams to implement the roadmap and aid in the design and implementation of integrated payment and health care delivery reform interventions. To achieve their health equity goals, the learning collaborative helps teams to align their resources and strategies while engaging Medicaid members and community partners. Teams are encouraged to design and implement payment reforms that support and create incentives for equity-focused health care delivery.

Supported by a National Team of Experts

[The National Advisory and Policy Development Committee \(NAC\)](#) is a group of national experts that supports AHE collaborative teams on the main tenants of the roadmap. The NAC brings together diverse expertise that strengthens the program and ensures a comprehensive, interdisciplinary approach. Click [here](#) for more information about current and past NAC members.



Convening Teams for Shared Learning

The AHE Learning Collaborative events bring teams together with experts from AHE partner organizations and the NAC to learn from and share ideas and resources with one another. Virtual cross-team learning sessions are held quarterly. More information about AHE events—including in-person national convenings, and virtual coffee chats and panel events—can be found on the [events page](#).

Resources

The Advancing Health Equity project develops multiple resources to assist state teams as they work through different areas of the roadmap and deepen understanding of redesigning payment reforms. These resources are available for free to all Medicaid stakeholders on the AHE [website](#). The following are frequently used and requested AHE resources.

Advancing Health Equity

- [Academic Resources - Advancing Health Equity](#)
- [AHE Technical Assistance Guide](#)
- [AHE Toolkit - Advancing Health Equity](#)
- [Creating a Culture of Equity](#)
- [Implementation Resources - Advancing Health Equity](#)
- [Leveraging Value-Based Payment Approaches to Promote Health Equity](#)
- [Key Milestones: Designing Care Delivery Transformations to Advance Health Equity](#)
- [Roadmap to Reduce Disparities](#)
- [Using Data to Reduce Disparities and Improve Quality](#)

Center for Health Care Strategies

- [Advancing Primary Care Innovation in Medicaid Managed care Conceptualizing and Designing Core Functions](#)
- [Leveraging Value-Based Payment Approaches to Promote Health Equity: Key Strategies for Health Care Payers](#)
- [Health Affairs Blog | Leveraging Primary Care Population-Based Payments in Medicaid to Advance Health Equity](#)
[CHCS Blog](#)

Institute for Medicaid Innovation

- [Medicaid Risk Adjustment Fact Sheet](#)
- [A Blueprint for Improving Maternal and Infant Health Outcomes Under Medicaid](#)
- [Medicaid Managed Care's Pandemic Pivot-Compendium](#)
- [Value of Investing in Social Determinants of Health Toolkit – Phase 1: Grounding Value in Authentic Relationships](#)

The Justice Collective

- [Transformative Research Toolkit](#)
- [How To Use A Popular Project Management Framework To Improve DEI](#)
- [Community Partnerships: Strategies to Accelerate Health Equity](#)
- [Data Driven Care Delivery](#)
- [Diversity and Inclusion in Leadership and Governance](#)

Other

- [Inequities Amplified By COVID-19: Opportunities for Medicaid To Address Health Disparities](#)

For more information about opportunities to be engaged in this exciting work, please email info@medicaidinnovation.org.

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