



California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH)

The Issue

 Health care gaps persist in California. While the Whole Person Care and Health Homes Programs pilots provided important investments in capacity and infrastructure needed to deliver Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports services, gaps remain statewide.

 Organizations that can play a key role in expanding care need more capacity. Community Supports relies on community-based organizations (CBOs), such as housing agencies, medically tailored meal providers, and sobering centers that are new to Medi-Cal delivery system networks. To function as full partners in realizing the goals of CalAIM, CBOs need new capabilities, including capacity to bring on additional staff and new data exchange and billing functionality.

PATH will build, maintain, and scale the capacity necessary to implement Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports statewide. PATH is designed to help CBOs, public hospitals, county agencies, tribes and other community providers develop the infrastructure they need to successfully participate in the Medi-Cal delivery system network and serve members.

Faces of PATH: CBOs Provide Essential Services to Medi-Cal Members

A CBO provides medically tailored meals to diabetic low-income individuals. It lacks enough staff to scale the program up so that it can serve Medi-Cal members. The CBO also needs a data-exchange infrastructure to communicate with health care providers about member needs. With PATH funds, this CBO can hire more staff to support the growing number of individuals it serves and participate in data exchange.

What is PATH?

PATH is a five-year, \$1.85 billion initiative that consists of two aligned programs: Support for Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports, and Support for Justice-Involved Capacity Building.

Support for Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports

PATH will help build the capacity and infrastructure necessary to widely implement a whole-person, community-based approach to serving people with complex health and social needs. PATH does this through four integrated initiatives:

1. **Maintaining service during transitions**

PATH will provide direct funding for services provided by former Whole Person Care pilot Lead Entities until the services transition to managed care coverage under CalAIM. This funding will end by January 2024.

- >> *Sample Funding Activity:* Paying for housing deposits previously provided by a Lead Entity until this service is covered by a local managed care plan in January 2023.

2. **Technical assistance**

PATH will provide a virtual “marketplace” that offers hands-on technical support and off-the-shelf resources from vendors to establish the infrastructure needed to implement Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports.

- >> *Sample Funding Activity:* Trainings for CBOs on Medicaid billing practices.

3. **Collaborative planning and implementation**

PATH will provide funding to promote planning and readiness for Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports among managed care plans and providers within a region.

- >> *Sample Funding Activity:* Facilitating working sessions to solve key implementation issues such as contracting between managed care plans and providers of Enhanced Care Management or Community Supports in a county.

4. **Capacity and Infrastructure Transition, Expansion and Development (CITED)**

PATH will support providers’ delivery of Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports services. Those that contract – or plan to contract – with a managed care plan can receive funding to support the transition, expansion, and development of these services.

- >> *Sample Funding Activity:* Purchasing new billing and data reporting systems necessary to bill Medi-Cal for services; recruiting, hiring, and onboarding staff that will have a direct role in delivery of Enhanced Care Management or Community Support services; or purchasing additional medical respite beds.

Justice-Involved Capacity Building Program

In 2023, PATH will support implementation of statewide [CalAIM justice-involved initiatives](#). Funds will ensure continuity of coverage through pre-release Medi-Cal enrollment and, pending federal approval, enable the provision of key services in the 90 days prior to release to support successful community re-entry. Funding will support:

1. **Collaborative planning**

Support correctional agencies, county social services departments, county behavioral health agencies, managed care plans, and others so they can jointly design, modify, and launch new processes.

- >> *Sample Funding Activity:* Multi-stakeholder working sessions to design a process to identify Medi-Cal-eligible individuals during the jail intake process.

2. **Capacity and infrastructure**

Support implementation of pre-release Medi-Cal enrollment and suspension processes.

- >> *Sample Funding Activity:* Support for modifications to booking systems to identify individuals eligible for Medi-Cal.

Positive Impact of PATH – Supporting the Transition to CalAIM

[PATH](#) boosts the capacity and infrastructure of on-the-ground partners serving Medi-Cal members through coordinated initiatives under [CalAIM](#). By funding providers and CBOs statewide, with a particular focus on those who have been historically under-resourced, PATH will help California advance health equity and address social drivers of health.

