>HCS NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA AWARDS ADDITIONAL \$88.5 MILLION TO HELP TRANSFORM MEDI-CAL

Funds will be used to develop and deploy Medi-Cal <u>Enhanced Care Management</u> and <u>Community</u> <u>Supports</u> services statewide

SACRAMENTO — The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) today announced the award of \$88.5 million to help local organizations build their capacity and infrastructure in support of a more coordinated, person-centered, and equitable Medi-Cal system for all Californians. These funds further the vision of California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), California's long-term commitment to transform and strengthen Medi-Cal.

"The awards provide critical funding to counties and existing and new Medi-Cal providers to enable them to more effectively reach those who are eligible for Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports," said **DHCS Director Michelle Baass**. "This will help Medi-Cal managed care plans and community providers work collaboratively to expand access to care statewide in a more sustainable way that supports implementation at the community level."

"As California continues to strengthen its capacity to deliver Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports services, more Medi-Cal members will benefit from the state's efforts to transform Medi-Cal, expand how and where members receive care, and build an equitable health care system for all," said **State Medicaid Director Jacey Cooper**.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: The current awards for <u>39 organizations</u> are being made through Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) Capacity and Infrastructure, Transition, Expansion, and Development (CITED) Initiative Round 1B. With the \$119 million <u>awarded</u> in January to 98 applicants in Round 1A, this completes the award notifications for PATH CITED Round 1 for a total of \$207 million to 137 organizations.

The PATH program is comprised of several aligned initiatives that will provide funding, tools, technical support, and resources to Medi-Cal providers, including community-based organizations, counties, local governmental entities, and other community partners, to support improved care management and delivery through the Medi-Cal system.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT: PATH CITED funds will be used to increase the provider workforce, invest in infrastructure and IT systems, develop plans to conduct outreach to historically underresourced and underserved populations to engage them in care, and support the delivery of Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports.

HOW WE GOT HERE: The PATH CITED initiative originally intended to award \$100 million to eligible entities, but in order to further transform California's Medi-Cal system, and in response to the large volume of funding requests received in Round 1, DHCS adjusted the Round 1 allocation. After finalizing Round 1B awardees, the total allocation for Round 1A and 1B is \$207 million. Both Round 1A and Round 1B awardees were selected from the Round 1 applicant pool.

Recipients of PATH CITED grants can include cities, counties, local governmental agencies, Tribes, nonprofits, public hospitals, and others. CITED applicants were required to actively be contracted to provide Enhanced Care Management/Community Supports or have a signed attestation from a Medi-Cal managed care plan or their subcontractor that they intend to contract with to provide Enhanced Care Management/Community Supports in a timely manner.

"DHCS' adoption of Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports on a statewide scale supports the highest-need Medi-Cal managed care members," said **Susan Philip, Deputy Director of DHCS' Health Care Delivery Systems**. "Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports are anchored in the community, where services can be delivered in person by community-based Enhanced Care Management and Community Supports providers."

The CITED Round 2 application window opened on February 28, and the deadline to apply is May 31.

For more information about the PATH initiative, as well as CITED Round 2 funding, please visit the <u>PATH website</u>.

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