

Attachment F

New Jersey FamilyCare Comprehensive Demonstration Protocol for HRSN Infrastructure

HRSN Infrastructure. In accordance with the state's Section 1115 Demonstration and Special Terms and Conditions, this protocol provides additional detail on the requirements on infrastructure investments for the Health-Related Social Needs (HRSN) program, as specifically required by STC 10.6.a. The state's HRSN program allows qualifying Medicaid beneficiaries to receive evidence-based clinically-appropriate services. Over the course of the demonstration the state is authorized to spend up to \$78.75M on infrastructure investments necessary to support the development and implementation of HRSN services. This protocol outlines the proposed uses of HRSN infrastructure expenditures, types of entities that will receive funding, intended purposes of funding, projected expenditure amounts and implementation timeline.

HRSN Infrastructure

I. Implementation Timeline and Approach

a. Timeline for Disbursement of Infrastructure Funding

- i. The state intends to begin awarding infrastructure funds to eligible entities no sooner than July 1, 2024. The state will utilize a phased approach to disbursing infrastructure funds to ensure providers beginning their participation at different times have sufficient infrastructure and capacity. The state will fund one or all HRSN service categories as needed to support implementation goals.

b. Approach to Infrastructure Funding Applications and Disbursements

- i. The state, either directly or via existing or contracted fiscal relationships, will conduct the following activities:
 1. Develop the infrastructure funding application(s)
 2. Conduct outreach and education to eligible entities regarding infrastructure funding opportunities
 3. Review applications against minimum entity eligibility criteria
 4. Review funding request budget templates to ensure compliance with requirements
 5. Award infrastructure funding to eligible entities
 6. Disburse funding to awarded entities
 7. Monitor infrastructure funding uses or verify that milestone-based outcomes are achieved amongst eligible entities to prevent fraud, waste and abuse
 8. Develop reporting templates for awardees to report on funding uses or milestone-based outcomes
 9. Review and analyze reports from awardees on funding uses or milestone-based outcomes
- ii. A state-defined process will be used to evaluate and approve applications and funding requests from eligible entities. The process will encompass several activities, including, for example:
 1. The state will set specific HRSN application windows in which entities can apply for and receive HRSN infrastructure funding.
 2. Standardized criteria to support evaluation of HRSN funding applications and requests will be used, considering the following categories:
 - a. The entity has submitted a complete application and budget request or proof that certain outcomes-based milestones were achieved.
 - b. The entity has requested HRSN funding within one of the allowable use categories listed in Section III, below.

- c. The entity has provided a strong justification for the need for HRSN infrastructure funding.
 - d. Applicant has demonstrated ability to provide or support the provision of one or more HRSN services.
 - e. Priority consideration may be given if the entity demonstrates any of the following: hires staff that have lived experience with the HRSN service the entity is providing, their staff composition reflects the ethnic, linguistic, and/or cultural backgrounds of those they serve, they are currently serving NJ FamilyCare-eligible residents.
- c. **Monitoring and Oversight**
- i. The state will ensure that any HRSN infrastructure fund disbursements are consistent with these STCs. The state will ensure that any HRSN infrastructure funding is subject to program integrity standards, including:
 1. **Participating in audit processes.** The state, either directly or via existing or contracted fiscal relationships, will conduct spot audits as needed to ensure that infrastructure funds are being spent on permissible uses and are being documented and reported on appropriately.
 2. **Taking action to address non-compliance.** The state will ensure that action is taken to address any identified non-compliance with HRSN infrastructure funding parameters. If the funding recipient has failed to demonstrate appropriate performance, the state may impose corrective actions (e.g., caps on funding, discontinuation of funding and/or recoupment of funding). The state will provide notice to any funding recipient prior to initiating corrective action.
 3. **Ensuring non-duplication of funds.** Funding recipients will be required to attest to non-duplication of funding with other federal, state and local funds. The state, either directly or via existing or contracted fiscal relationships, will monitor for funding irregularities and potential duplication of funds.
 4. **Monitoring for fraud, waste and abuse.** The state, either directly or via existing or contracted fiscal relationships, will actively monitor all HRSN infrastructure disbursements for instances of fraud, waste and abuse. The state will suspend and/or terminate infrastructure funding in cases of confirmed fraud, waste and/or abuse. The state reserves the right to recoup funding as necessary.

II. Eligible Entities.

- a. The following entities may be eligible to apply for and receive HRSN infrastructure funding:
 - i. Principle eligible entities include:
 1. Entities that have the capacity to deliver housing-related HRSN services, including housing providers, community-based organizations, social-service agencies, traditional health care providers, and case management providers.
 - ii. Additional eligible entities include:
 1. Entities that have the capacity to deliver other HRSN services, including food and nutrition service providers, community-based organizations, social-service agencies, traditional health care providers, and case management providers;
 2. Entities that have the capacity to support the delivery of HRSN services, including state, city, county, and local governments; community-based organizations; or other entities who support HRSN contracting, implementation, invoicing and service delivery; and,
 3. State agencies, local government, or contracted partners to facilitate setup, operation, and ongoing oversight of HRSN programs.

- b. In addition, entities must meet the following minimum eligibility criteria in order to be considered eligible for the HRSN infrastructure funding. Minimum eligibility criteria may include:
 - i. The entity is capable of providing or supporting the provision of one or more HRSN services to Medicaid beneficiaries within the state of New Jersey.
 - ii. The entity has attested to being financially stable, as defined by the state.

III. **Intended Purpose and Proposed Uses of HRSN Infrastructure Funding.** The state may claim federal financial participation (FFP) in infrastructure investments to support the development and implementation of HRSN services across the following domains.

- a. Technology
- b. Development of business or operational practices
- c. Workforce development
- d. Outreach, education and stakeholder convening

The State intends to provide infrastructure funding to eligible entities for the following activities:

- a. **Technology.** Qualifying entities can leverage HRSN infrastructure funding to support a range of technology needs, including those that support closed-loop referral platforms and other community information exchange priorities.
 - i. Procuring IT infrastructure/data platforms/systems needed to enable, for example:
 - 1. Authorization of HRSN services
 - 2. Documentation of eligibility for HRSN services and track enrollment
 - 3. Closed loop referral to HRSN services
 - 4. Record plans of care
 - 5. HRSN service delivery
 - 6. HRSN service billing
 - 7. HRSN program oversight, monitoring and reporting, including for activities beyond HRSN infrastructure (e.g., reporting on HRSN services delivered, monitoring to ensure members receive the services for which they were authorized, activities to prevent fraud, waste and abuse across the HRSN program)
 - 8. Determine eligibility for other federal, state and local programs including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and/or Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
 - ii. Modifying existing systems (e.g., community information exchange) to support HRSN
 - iii. Development of an HRSN eligibility/services screening tool
 - iv. Integration of data platforms/systems/tools
 - v. Onboarding to new, modified or existing systems
 - vi. Training for use of new, modified or existing systems
- b. **Development of business or operational practices**
 - i. Development of policies/procedures related to:
 - 1. HRSN referral, service delivery workflows, and care plans
 - 2. Billing/invoicing
 - 3. Data sharing/reporting
 - 4. Program oversight/monitoring
 - 5. Evaluation
 - 6. Privacy and confidentiality
 - ii. Training/technical assistance on HRSN program and roles/responsibilities
 - iii. Administrative items necessary to perform HRSN duties and/or expand HRSN service delivery capacity
 - iv. Procurement of administrative supports to assist implementation of HRSN

c. Workforce development

- i. Training provided by a technical assistance organization to support one or more HRSN providers
- ii. Cost of recruiting, hiring and training new staff to provide HRSN salary and fringe for staff that will have a direct role in overseeing, designing, implementing and/or executing HRSN responsibilities, time limited to a period of 18 months.
- iii. Necessary certifications, training, technical assistance and/or education for staff participating in the HRSN program (e.g., on culturally competent and/or trauma informed care)
- iv. Privacy/confidentiality training/technical assistance (TA) related to HRSN service delivery
- v. Production costs for training materials and/or experts as it pertains to the HRSN program

d. Outreach, education and stakeholder convening

- i. Production of materials necessary for marketing, outreach, training and/or education related to HRSN.
- ii. Translation of materials
- iii. Planning for and facilitation of community-based outreach events to support awareness of HRSN services
- iv. Planning for and facilitation of learning collaboratives or stakeholder convenings for HRSN
- v. Community engagement activities necessary to support HRSN program implementation and launch (e.g., roundtable to solicit feedback on guidance documents)
- vi. Administrative or overhead costs associated with outreach, education or convening directly tied to HRSN.

IV. Projected Expenditure Amounts: The state estimates the following infrastructure expenditure amounts by allowable use category over the course of the demonstration. The state used the annual infrastructure spending amounts articulated in the state’s STCs, and an analysis of anticipated need across the state to develop the estimates below. The state anticipates that the percentage of spend permissible use categories (as illustrated in the table below) will stay relatively constant across the Demonstration Years. The state will notify CMS annually of any significant change to percentage spend, defined as greater than a fifteen (15) percentage point difference, across any of the allowable use categories below.

Allowable use category	% of spend	Estimated Amount
Technology	40%	\$31.5M
Development of Operational or Business Practices	20%	\$15.75M
Workforce Development	30%	\$23.625M
Outreach, Education and Stakeholder Convening	10%	\$7.875M
Total	100%	\$78.75