



Medicaid Transformation Project Cheat Sheet

A brief overview:

Medicaid is the health insurance program the government offers for low-income people. In Washington it is called Apple Health and about 2 million people use it.

Because Medicaid is run by the Federal Government (think Washington DC), making any changes in locally requires a big process called a Medicaid Waiver. The Washington Health Care Authority (HCA), the part of our local government that takes responsibility for Apple Health, got one of these waivers to start this process from 2017-2022, which we call the Medicaid Transformation Project (MTP).

MTP so far has helped to improve quality and access to health care for everyone, and we want to keep going!

Better Health Together wants to keep these great projects and partnerships going, and is helping the HCA apply for another round of the Waiver, starting with input from community!

The main goals of this renewal you need to know:

The Goals for MTP Round 2: (as HCA says them)

1. Expanding coverage and access to care, ensuring people can get the care they need.
2. Advancing whole-person primary, preventive, and home- and community-based care.
3. Accelerating care delivery and payment innovation focused on health-related social needs.

Let's translate that:

- 1. Make sure everyone can get health insurance *and* the appointments and care they need.**
 - a. Take away some unnecessary hoop's families have to jump through to keep their kids from ages 0-6 enrolled in Apple Health
 - b. Get people in jail, prison, and correctional services back on Apple Health 30 days *before* their release date, so people can get the health services and medication they need right away.
 - c. People who have been pregnant stay on Apple Health for a year after their pregnancy ends
- 2. Building more supports for people with long term health needs.**
 - a. Continue to support older adults in aging at home, and the family members that care for them
 - b. Smoother coordination services for people needing long term health support
 - c. Direct financial assistance for people needing long term services, such as rental assistance and compensation for legal guardians
 - d. Continue to evaluate the work from MTP Round 1 to learn the impact of projects and how to improve
- 3. Center whole person care for all – recognizing that wellness happens in many ways outside of the doctor's office and our systems need to support that**
 - a. Foundational Community Supports (FCS) – supporting complex health needs that help people keep housed and employed



- b. Accountable Communities of Health (ACH) working to address equity– That’s us! Better Health Together is an ACH and will continue to convene amazing partner organization in projects that promote better health for all
 - i. Community Hub Project – continue to connect organizations in ways that make it easier for people to connect to all the services they need. BHT has been supporting HUB projects in MTP, and you can read more below.
- c. Follow the money – make changes to what Apple Health can pay for to be more inclusive to people’s needs
 - i. Something we call “In-lieu-of services” (ILOS) – things that aren’t technically health care but make people healthier, like removing carpet from the home of someone with asthma or things like transportation, nutrition, and transportation

Another big idea that we hope to continue building is the Hub model for care coordination.

Projects like *BHT’s Pathways HUB*, *Jail Transition work*, *Better Health Through Housing*, and our *Covid Care Coordination* work are all examples of Hub projects.

BHT serves as the Hub, and partners with organizations in the community like SNAP, Spectrum Center, Volunteers of America, American Indian Community Center, and many more who have amazing staff offering care in the community.

Hubs recognize that navigating today’s health care system is *dang complicated*, and connecting with a service provider who you can really trust and connect with can make all the difference. As the Hub, **BHT receives referrals for people who need resources, check in with what overall needs they have, then can connect that person with a community health worker (CHW)** or care coordinator from one of our partner organizations who can be their ally in getting the services they need and meeting the hopes they have for their health. We are excited Round 2 of MTP would create more jobs for CHWs because the best ones are folks with their own lived experience of navigating these systems.

BHT helps our partner organizations keep connected and talking to each other, so we can take a collaborative approach to tackling big health issues and learn from each other along the way.

For you as a health care user, this project is a step to building a health system where people with a lot of needs don’t have to search for tons and tons of different providers to get all their needs met, but instead are connected with a trusted ally with similar experiences to be a partner in navigating care.

This is all a step towards of achieving that vision of whole person health for all.



Here is a list of all the acronyms in the HCA slideshow:

MTP = Medicaid Transformation Projects

HCA = Health Care Authority (Administers Medicaid for Washington state)

CMS = Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Administers Medicaid nationally)

FPL = Federal Poverty Level

SUD= Substance Use Disorder (alcohol or drug addiction)

LTSS = Long Term Services and Supports (services for people who will need complex care for a long time)

TSOS = Tailored Services for Older Adults (programs to support people aging with dignity at home)

MAC = Medicaid Alternative Care

FCS = Foundational Community Supports

ACH = Accountable Community of Health (BHT is an ACH)

MCO = Managed Care Organization (Apple Health Insurance Plans like Molina, United, Coordinated Care, Community Health Plan of Washington and Amerigroup)

TAHC = Taking Action for Healthier Communities

SDOH = Social Determinants of Health (like housing, food, transportation, etc...)

ILOS = in-lieu of services (these are things that insurance doesn't usually pay for but would really make someone healthier, like removing carpet from a home of someone with asthma)

CHWs = Community Health Workers

CBO = Community Based Organization