1. Background & Opportunity

**Intent:** Southwest Washington Accountable Community of Health (SWACH) seeks to fund collaborative, cross-sector partnerships for projects in Clark, Klickitat and Skamania Counties that will improve:

- Delivery of care or services
- Coordination of care across organizations
- Community conditions and environments to address inequities in health, safety and wellness

**Vision:** Partnering to build a healthier future for everyone in Southwest Washington

**Mission:** We bring together community members and other experts to address our region’s major health challenges. Through innovative partnerships and local resources, we work to create lasting changes and a healthier future – for everyone.

The root causes of health inequity are complex and interconnected. No one system holds the answer. Southwest Washington Accountable Community of Health (SWACH), which includes the integration of the Healthy Living Collaborative (HLC), is a local nonprofit working with more than 80 cross-discipline partners to improve health in Southwest Washington. Our SWACH region includes Clark, Skamania and Klickitat Counties.

**Approach:** Collaborative impact, community-clinical linkages and system changes are cornerstones of our overall strategy. To accelerate impact, we support a regional learning and action community that provides a structured framework for partners to turn learning into action. We provide and support important infrastructure, including a care coordination and information exchange continuum, a robust stakeholder engagement system, transformation facilitation and coaching, and partner investments to achieve our community-clinical linkage goals.
**Background:** The purpose of this announcement is to describe the next round of investment opportunities for community-serving and clinical organizations. In September of 2018, we cast a wide net to both clinical and community-serving organizations to identify partners interested in supporting health and wellness transformation. We are now in binding agreements with clinical partners for two years ending December 31, 2020 and with community-serving organizations for one year ending December 31, 2019. We have learned so much from our first cohort of 31 community partners.

Since many of the strongest predictors of health and wellbeing fall outside of the health care setting, this round of investments will focus on connecting and facilitating partnerships across sectors between community-serving organizations and clinical partners.

**We're seeking partnerships that include at least one behavioral health care and/or physical health care partner, and one or more community partners such as (but not limited to):**

- Community Health Workers, Community Health Advocates, and/or Peers
- Criminal justice
- Culturally-specific organizations
- Education or workforce development
- Emergency response (Emergency medical services, fire and rescue)
- Neighborhood groups
- Public health
- Social services (food, housing, domestic violence, shelter, transportation, utility assistance)
- Substance Use Disorder support organizations

**Funding Available:**

Each collaborative can request up to $800,000 to support their proposed project. We anticipate funding 3-6 projects. The funding cannot be used for capital expenses.

**Questions?** Contact swachteam@southwestach.org or 360-828-7319.

2. **Key Dates**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 1, 2019</td>
<td>Request for Proposals (RFP) Letter of Interest (LOI) period opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 15, 2019</td>
<td>In-Person information session</td>
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<td>October 15, 2019</td>
<td>Webinar information session</td>
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<td>November 15, 2019</td>
<td>LOIs due by 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 13, 2019</td>
<td>SWACH response to applicants</td>
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<td>January 6-17, 2020</td>
<td>Selected applicants participate in technical assistance session</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 31, 2020</td>
<td>Full proposal due</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 21, 2020</td>
<td>SWACH response to selected applicants</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 31, 2020-March 31, 2022</td>
<td>Funding dispersed and project work completed</td>
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3. Process

Deadline: Submit an LOI by November 15, 2019 at 11:59pm to swachteam@southwestach.org.

LOI Requirements
The LOI must include a description of:

- The problem you are solving based on an identified community need
- The organizations you intend to partner with and the proposed role of each organization
- Your project and how it will improve:
  - The delivery of care or services; and/or
  - The coordination of care across organizations and sectors; and/or
  - Community conditions and environments \(^1\) to address inequities in health, safety and wellness
- How your project will improve one or more of SWACH’s pay-for-performance measures (see appendix)
- Expected outcomes
- How your project will address racism, discrimination and other forms of institutional inequities
- How your project will elevate community voices and leadership in planning and implementation
- Total amount of requested funds

Please note: The strongest proposals will include cross-sector partnerships between behavioral health care, physical health care and community serving organizations. SWACH will prioritize projects with the strongest potential to improve one or more of SWACH’s pay-for-performance (P4P) measures.

Review Process and Next Steps:
A review committee will screen all LOIs for completeness and to ensure they align with the focus of this RFP. The committee will evaluate LOIs based on the criteria below and will determine which LOIs will move forward. Organizations submitting LOIs will be notified of their application’s status by December 13, 2019.

Organizations selected to submit a full proposal will receive support from SWACH staff as they develop those proposals. Selected organizations will participate in a required technical assistance work session. Organizations will submit a full proposal by January 31, 2020. A review committee will evaluate full proposals. Those submitting full proposals will be notified of the status of their application by February 21, 2020.

\(^1\)Definition: Reduce illness and injury and avert the costliest conditions through equitable investments that improve the resources, opportunities, and conditions in community environments.
4. LOI Criteria: Key Features

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<th>Key Features of a Strong LOI</th>
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| **Community-Clinical Linkages** | • Demonstrates a partnership between at least one behavioral health care organization and/or physical health care organization and at least one community-serving organization. The strongest proposals will include cross-sector partnerships between behavioral health care, physical health care and community-serving organizations.  
  • Identifies partners and proposed roles. |
| **Meaningful Impact** | • Describes a problem that addresses a community need.  
  • Describes how the project plan will impact:  
    o The delivery of care or services; and/or  
    o The coordination of care across organizations and sectors; and/or  
    o Community conditions and environments to address inequities in health, safety and wellness.  
  • How your project will improve one or more of SWACH’s pay-for-performance measures. |
| **Measurability** | • Describes outcomes that may be identified and measured. |
| **Equity** | • Describes how the project will address racism, discrimination, and other forms of institutional inequities.  
  • Describes which groups are most impacted by the project and/or partnership(s).  
  • Describes how community voices and leadership are a part of planning and implementation. |
| **Sustainability** | • Describes a project that has the potential for continued support from partners or external sources. |
5. Next Steps
If your organization’s letter of interest is selected to move forward, SWACH staff will contact you about next steps. This will include a work session with SWACH staff to develop a full proposal. SWACH staff will also share any additional criteria that will be used to evaluate the full proposal. If your organization is not selected to move forward, SWACH staff will contact you and share additional opportunities for shared learning and to engage in Medicaid Transformation work.

Full proposals will require:

- Problem statement
- Aim statement (to include timeframe and priority population(s))
- Logic model/theory of change
- Key milestones and change activities that will accomplish the aim
- Clear success measures and outcomes
- Demonstration of how the project will help improve one or more of SWACH’s P4P measures (see appendix)
- Project team members listed with identified roles
- Project sponsors
- A letter of partnership from each organization, which identifies their contribution to the partnership (including FTE, funding, etc.)
- Budget
Appendix:

SWACH Pay for Performance Measures
This document lists the Pay for Performance (P4P) measures that the Health Care Authority is holding SWACH accountable to as part of the Medicaid Transformation work. A portion of SWACH’s funding is dependent on meeting targets for these measures in 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Pay for Performance Measures - 2019:
- All-cause emergency department utilization
- Antidepressant medication management (acute and continuation rates)
- Child and adolescent access to primary care
- Comprehensive diabetes care: HbA1c testing
- Comprehensive diabetes care: Kidney screening
- Medication management for people with asthma
- Mental health treatment penetration rate
- Patients prescribed concurrent opioids and sedatives
- Patients prescribed chronic high-dose opioid therapy (>50 and >90 MED)
- Percent homeless
- Plan all-cause hospital readmission rate
- Substance use disorder treatment penetration

Other measures will be added in 2020 and 2021:
- Acute hospital utilization
- Comprehensive diabetes care: Eye exam
- Follow up after emergency department visit for alcohol and other drugs (7 and 30 day)
- Follow up after emergency department visit for mental illness (7 and 30 day)
- Follow up after hospitalization for mental illness (7 and 30 day)
- Statin therapy for patients with cardiovascular disease
- Substance use disorder treatment penetration (opioids)

For more information:
P4P measure specifications: https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/program/mtp-measurement-guide.pdf
(see appendix)
(see Healthier Washington Measures Dashboard, Transformation Measures report)