Ohio Department of Medicaid
Integrated Care for Kids (InCK) Model
Ohio

**Lead Organization:** Nationwide Children’s Hospital (NCH)

**Maximum Award Amount Over 7 Years:** $14,921,737

**State Medicaid/CHIP Agency:** Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) (Award Recipient)

**Model Goals:** Rural communities face daunting health challenges, including the opioid epidemic and substance abuse, social supports, and lack of access to physical and behavioral healthcare resulting from severe provider shortages. Despite such challenges, these communities have built strong and dedicated local partnerships to support children and families. With this in mind, Ohio InCK has selected two rural areas in eastern Ohio, Licking and Muskingum counties, to test new delivery models. Ohio InCK will provide an opportunity to generate significant results for a high-need population while testing locally tailored, whole-child, and whole-family approaches to address pressing pediatric needs in a rural area. Ohio InCK goals are to use the strength of local partnerships and community-based services, early identification and treatment, and enhanced care coordination and data sharing to address behavioral health needs and reduce out of home placement within the targeted population.

**Highlights:** Cross-system data are not typically shared due to confidentiality-related barriers, budgetary and organizational structure silos, and lack of trust. Ohio InCK aims to coordinate data and resources across state government and streamline technology service across multiple agencies. Ohio InCK aims to harness a reusable system that supports both scalability and long-term sustainability, while creating a complete data-based picture of the child within the family and community context to ensure holistic and integrated care planning across sectors.

**Implementation Strategy:** ODM, in cooperation with other state child-serving agencies, plans to customize the structure and design of the Medicaid program statewide to tailor services to meet the needs of children, particularly for children involved in multiple state systems (e.g., juvenile justice, child protective services, intellectual/developmental disabilities) or other youth with complex behavioral health needs including an intensive care coordination model. This model will leverage existing services and infrastructure to help coordinate services and supports across multiple healthcare entities and child-serving agencies with a specific expertise necessary to effectively serve this population. The Ohio InCK approach will compliment these efforts by 1) piloting an approach to shared data infrastructure that allows for attribution based on needs, and 2) utilizing Service Integration Coordinators to test the approach of training existing managers and care coordinators in the use of that data infrastructure.

**Alternative Payment Model:** The targeted counties of Licking and Muskingum fall within a 34-county footprint of NCH’s Partners For Kids (PFK) Accountable Care Organization (ACO). PFK is the nation’s first and largest exclusively pediatric ACO, serving 330,000 children in Central and Southeastern Ohio. Establishing the model within this footprint will allow Ohio to build upon PFK’s existing provider network, infrastructure, and stakeholder engagement strategies, facilitating regional scaling of the model. The Ohio InCK APM is considering the use of various payment types including: 1) a per member/per month payment to cover a portion of the cost of services and activities provided by InCK and 2) a pay for performance bonus payment.

**Community Partners:** Nationwide Children’s Hospital and Ohio Department of Medicaid formed a Partnership Council of 25 child-focused organizations to implement the Ohio InCK Model. Additionally, six state departments signed letters of support: Education, Job and Family Services, Youth Services, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Developmental Disabilities, and Health.

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