



Health and Human Services Transformation | [Website](#)

December 2014

Dear community stakeholder,

In 2014, together with many community partners, we have moved from envisioning a transformed health and human services to action. Working collaboratively, partners have come together around game-changing opportunities such as Communities of Opportunity, Familiar Faces, and Accountable Community of Health Planning. Visit the "Transforming Health and Human Services" [website](#) to learn more about these initiatives and other transformative work.

As we look ahead to 2015, we want to highlight a few opportunities that are fast approaching:

Early Learning Roundtable *You're invited, January 7, 2015*

Join us on January 7, 2015 for a discussion about the future of early learning in King County. Don't miss this opportunity to learn the latest brain science regarding how very young children learn. Be part of an exciting region-wide effort to ensure King County sustains a vibrant early learning community that can serve as a national model. [RSVP here](#).

This event is hosted by King County Executive Dow Constantine, Seattle Mayor Ed Murray, The City of Bellevue, and the Sound Cities Association.

Guest presenters at the event will include:

- Dr. Patricia Kuhl, Co-Director, University of Washington Institute for Learning and Brain Science (I-LABS)
- Mark K. Shriver, President, Save the Children Action Network (SCAN)
- A representative from The White House
- Leaders from local community-based organizations, non-profits, and early learning childhood providers as they share their current

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Key Dates

June 30-Dec. 31:

[Accountable Community of Health planning period](#)

Early January: PICH RFPs released

January 7: Early Learning Roundtable

January 9: ACH Design Community Grant Applications due

Staying in Touch

We'll continue to share news and updates through this stakeholder network email list, and also on [our website](#). People wishing to be added to, or removed from, this list can indicate so through the links at the bottom of this message or [write to us](#).

What is the HHS

work

Date: Wednesday, January 7, 2015

Time: 10:00 am - 12:30pm

Location: The Great Hall at Town Hall, 1119 Eighth Avenue, Seattle 98103

Proudly Supported by the Bezos Family Foundation, Kinderling, The Road Map Project, and SOAR

Requests for proposals to promote Healthy Eating, Active Living & Tobacco Prevention

Coming soon!

Public Health - Seattle & King County, Seattle Children's Hospital, and the Healthy King County Coalition recently received a three-year, \$9 million grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to support policy, systems, and environment change for obesity and tobacco prevention. The Partnerships to Improve Community Health (PICH) grant will build on efforts to increase access to healthy foods and physical activity, reduce exposure to unhealthy foods and beverages and reduce exposure to tobacco products.

King County PICH will primarily fund activities by local community agencies, schools, businesses and local governments to change policies, and create community places that support healthy choices.

In early January, Public Health will release three Requests for Proposals (RFP) as one component of the funding to be distributed to support King County PICH. Approximately \$1.5 million will be awarded to community organizations, local jurisdictions, schools, and school districts in South Seattle and South King County over the life of the grant. Learn more about the RFPs and view timeline [here](#).

Recent News in State Health System Transformation, Accountable Communities of Health and Physical/Behavioral Health Integration

WA State receives \$65 million award to support health transformation.

On December 16, the [Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation announced](#) that Washington State won a \$65 million grant to bolster health system transformation in the state. The federal grant supports the Healthier Washington project developed through a collaboration of state leaders, the Legislature, health care systems and

Transformation Plan?

The [Transformation Plan](#) charts a five-year course to a better performing health and human services system for the residents and communities of King County. Called for by the Metropolitan King County Council, a cross-sector panel advised on the Plan's development in 2013. The Plan was accepted by the County Council in July 2013. It is grounded in a vision that calls for shifting from today's crisis and sick-care oriented systems to one focused on prevention, wellness, recovery, and the elimination of disparities.

community members.

Healthier Washington's purpose is to achieve the "Triple Aim" for the state's population: better health, better care, and lower costs. Washington is one of 11 states to get the four-year grant, which begins in February 2015. The Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) will serve as lead agency for the grant. See more details on the [Healthier Washington website](#).

The Accountable Community of Health initiative

Wondering what *is* an Accountable Community of Health? What about a Regional Service Area? The state's "ACH 101" webinar provides helpful answers to these questions. You can find a link to the webinar on the Healthier Washington's newly updated [website](#).

In other news specific to the King County region ACH planning, a big thank you to those of you who reviewed and provided input on the [draft ACH proposed path forward](#). The consultant and staff team are now preparing the final document due to the Health Care Authority on December 31. To help carry out the next steps described in that plan, we are also preparing an application to the Health Care Authority for a [design community grant](#) due January 9, 2015.

If you have questions about next steps in the King County ACH planning, contact Janna Wilson at janna.wilson@kingcounty.gov or HHSTransformation@kingcounty.gov.

State asks for Letters of Intent from counties seeking to opt-in as "early adopters" of fully integrated physical and behavioral health care.

In April 2014, Governor Jay Inslee signed [Senate Bill 6312](#) into law, which integrates how the state purchases mental health and chemical dependency services in the Medicaid program. The bill lays out a pathway to fully integrated managed care systems that provide physical and behavioral health services on a statewide basis by January 1, 2020.

Counties that are "early adopters" of this new integrated approach by 2016 will be eligible for a share of up to ten percent of resulting state savings for up to six years or until full integration is accomplished statewide, whichever comes first.

On December 5, 2014, the Health Care Authority recently [issued this request for letters of intent](#) from counties seeking to pursue the "Early Adopter" pathway

to fully integrate physical and behavioral health care services delivered through Medicaid managed care organizations. Pursuit of the Early Adopter pathway is currently under consideration in a few regions of the state, including King County.

The State welcomes feedback on a "[Preliminary Approach to ACH/County roles](#)"

One of the envisioned roles of the ACH is to have a voice in Medicaid procurement design and to provide meaningful oversight. A common question among stakeholders is "what might that look like?" This short document shared by the Health Care Authority describes potential roles the ACH/County role in monitoring managed care plan performance and developing contract requirements. The Health Care Authority welcomes your feedback on this document.

For more information, please refer to the Health Care Authority's Integrating Behavioral and Physical Health Care Purchasing [webpage](#). All feedback and questions should be directed to earlyadopterquestions@hca.wa.gov.



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