

W O R K I N G T O A C H I E V E H E A L T H E Q U I T Y



Keynote Address: California Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems (CAPH)/Safety Net Institute (SNI) Annual Conference 2023

December 7, 2023

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CMS Office of Minority Health

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is the largest provider of health insurance in the United States, responsible for ensuring that more than 180 million individuals supported by CMS programs (Medicare, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program, and the Health Insurance Marketplaces) are able to get the care and health coverage they need and deserve.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Office of Minority Health (CMS OMH) is one of eight offices of minority health within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. CMS OMH works with local and federal partners to eliminate health disparities while improving the health of all minority populations, racial and ethnic communities, people with limited English proficiency, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.



CMS Office of Minority Health

Mission

CMS OMH will lead the advancement and integration of health equity in the development, evaluation, and implementation of CMS's policies, programs, and partnerships.

Vision

All those served by CMS have achieved their highest level of health and well-being, and we have eliminated disparities in health care quality and access.



CMS Strategic Vision

ADVANCE EQUITY

Advance health equity by addressing the health disparities that underlie our health system



EXPAND ACCESS

Build on the Affordable Care Act and expand access to quality, affordable health coverage and care



ENGAGE PARTNERS

Engage our partners and the communities we serve throughout the policymaking and implementation process



DRIVE INNOVATION

Drive Innovation to tackle our health system challenges and promote value-based, person-centered care



PROTECT PROGRAMS

Protect our programs' sustainability for future generations by serving as a responsible steward of public funds



FOSTER EXCELLENCE

Foster a positive and inclusive workplace and workforce, and promote excellence in all aspects of CMS's operations



CMS Framework for Health Equity

- Operationalize health equity across all CMS programs: Medicare, Marketplace, Medicaid, and CHIP
- Is evidence-based and informed by decades of research and stakeholder input
- Consist of five priority areas
- Review the framework: go.cms.gov/framework



The infographic features a circular graphic on the left with five colored segments (yellow, blue, orange, dark blue, and light blue) representing the five priority areas. The right side contains text and icons for each priority.

CMS Framework for Health Equity 2022-2032

Definition of Health Equity

The attainment of the highest level of health for all people, where everyone has a fair and just opportunity to attain their optimal health regardless of race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, geography, preferred language, or other factors that affect access to care and health outcomes. CMS is working to advance health equity by designing, implementing, and operationalizing policies and programs that support health for all the people served by our programs, eliminating avoidable differences in health outcomes experienced by people who are disadvantaged or underserved, and providing the care and support that our enrollees need to thrive.

CMS Framework for Health Equity Priorities

-  **Priority 1:** Expand the Collection, Reporting, and Analysis of Standardized Data
-  **Priority 2:** Assess Causes of Disparities Within CMS Programs, and Address Inequities in Policies and Operations to Close Gaps
-  **Priority 3:** Build Capacity of Health Care Organizations and the Workforce to Reduce Health and Health Care Disparities
-  **Priority 4:** Advance Language Access, Health Literacy, and the Provision of Culturally Tailored Services
-  **Priority 5:** Increase All Forms of Accessibility to Health Care Services and Coverage

To read the CMS Framework for Health Equity 2022-2032, visit go.cms.gov/framework.

The CMS Office of Minority Health offers health equity technical assistance resources, aimed to help health care organizations take action against health disparities. If you are looking for assistance, visit go.cms.gov/omh or email HealthEquityTA@cms.hhs.gov.



Medicaid Unwinding and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

- The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provides health coverage to about 5 million children in low-income families in California.
- About 15 million people are predicted to lose Medicaid and CHIP coverage over the next year.
 - 5.3 million children and 4.7 million adults ages 18-34 predicted to lose Medicaid/CHIP coverage
 - Nearly one-third of those predicted to lose coverage are Latino and 15 percent are Black

For Materials:

- Visit: [Medicaid.gov/Unwinding](https://www.Medicaid.gov/Unwinding)

For questions:

- Visit: [Medicaid.gov/renewals](https://www.Medicaid.gov/renewals)



Have you heard the news?

Your state will restart eligibility reviews.

DON'T RISK A GAP IN YOUR MEDICAID OR CHIP COVERAGE. GET READY TO RENEW NOW.

Following these steps will help determine if you still qualify:

-  Make sure your contact information is up to date.
-  Check your mail for a letter.
-  Complete your renewal form (if you get one).

Have Questions?

Visit [Medicaid.gov/renewals](https://www.Medicaid.gov/renewals) today. You can also contact your state Medicaid office for help or to update your contact information.

Call to Action and Key Messages for Partners

- **CMS Needs Your Help!**
- **What Partners Can Do NOW**
 - Right now, partners can help **support the renewal process and educate Medicaid and CHIP enrollees about the recent changes.**
- **Key Messages for Partners to Share**
 - There are four main messages that partners should focus on now when communicating with people that are enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP.
 - **UPDATE** your contact information with your state Medicaid or CHIP Agency.
 - **RESPOND** to the Medicaid/CHIP renewal form when it arrives to keep your coverage.
 - **PARENTS** should respond even if you don't think you're eligible – your kids could still be eligible.
 - **CONSIDER OTHER COVERAGE OPTIONS:** If you are no longer eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, check if you can get coverage through your employer, through the Affordable Care Act Marketplace at HealthCare.gov, or through Medicare.

Advancing Health Equity in Medicaid

- CMS is taking a holistic look at its policies and programs to identify opportunities to enhance maternity care.
 - Maternity Care Action Plan
 - Medicaid Quality Measures
 - Postpartum Care in Medicaid and CHIP Toolkit
 - CMS Birthing Friendly designation

CMS Cross Cutting Initiative

Maternity Care

Action Plan



Addressing the United States' maternity care crisis is a key priority for the Biden-Harris Administration.

Increasing Access, Quality, and Equity in Postpartum Care in Medicaid and CHIP

A Toolkit for State Medicaid and CHIP Agencies
August 2023



Addressing Health-Related Social Needs (HRSNs) in Medicaid

- CMS released guidance on “Coverage of Services and Supports to Address Health-Related Social Needs in Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program”.
 - Explaining opportunities to cover evidence-based housing and nutritional services.
 - Describing how state Medicaid and CHIP programs may cover services addressing HRSNs for specific populations.
 - California is one of the seven states approved for a section 1115 demonstration.
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State Work Underway to Accelerate Health Equity

Below are a few examples of ways states are engaged in advancing health equity in Medicaid:

- Adopting strategies to renew eligibility based on information from other programs.
- Using information from Medicaid Managed Care Organizations or other databases to help ensure that renewal letters are received.
- Adopting other strategies to renew Medicaid for eligible families without requesting additional paperwork.

Connect with CMS

CMS Website

[CMS.gov](https://www.cms.gov)

Medicaid Website

[Medicaid.gov](https://www.medicaid.gov)

CMS OMH Website

go.cms.gov/omh

Thank you!