

ILLINOIS AMONG FIVE STATES SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN SUD POLICY INSTITUTE

Illinois is one of five states selected by the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) to participate in the State Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Policy Institute. This opportunity is supported by a cooperative agreement with the Health Resources and Services Administration and will assist in the development of innovative strategies to increase access to and improve the quality of SUD treatment, recovery, and preventive services for Medicaid beneficiaries using Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). The institute kicks off this month.

Illinois's team consists of officials from the Department of Human Services/Substance Use Prevention and Recovery (DHS/SUPR) and the Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS), as well as senior representatives from the Illinois Primary Healthcare Association and Crossing Health Care, an FQHC in Decatur who is also a SUPR-licensed treatment provider.

Through the institute, Illinois will receive eighteen months of flexible technical assistance, including:

- State-specific assessment of relevant policies and regulations;
- Support developing a state action plan; and
- Opportunities to connect with peers and state, federal, and national experts while supported by NASHP's in-house expertise.

Illinois has been selected to participate in a policy institute to increase access to and improve quality of substance use disorder services for Medicaid beneficiaries in federally qualified health centers.

Other states participating in the institute include Alabama, South Dakota, Virginia, and Wisconsin. Additional information about the institute can be found on the NASHP website (<https://nashp.org/nashps-state-sud-policy-institute-supports-states-to-address-sud-in-fqhcs/>)

DHS/SUPR will keep providers and stakeholders up-to-date on opportunities for participation and lessons learned related to the institute.