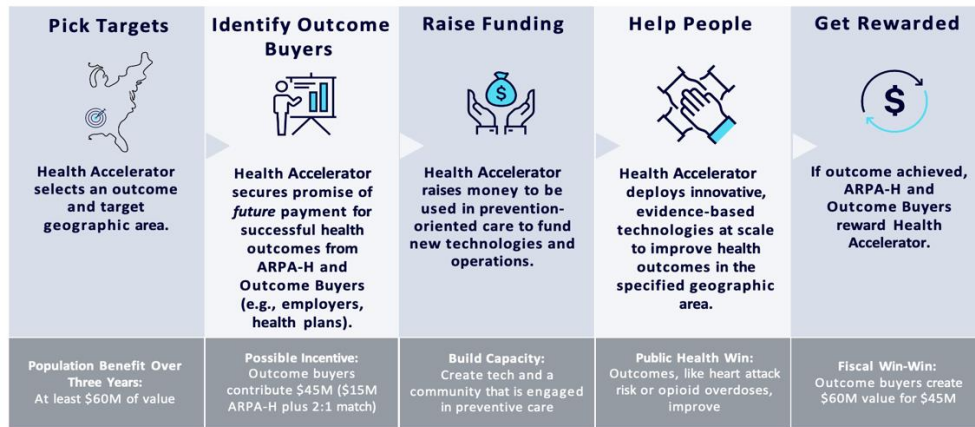


**Texas MCO NMDOH Learning Collaborative Webinar: Overview of ARPA-H HEROES Program
April 1, 2024**

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Shao-Chee Sim with the Episcopal Health Foundation welcomed the attendees and introduced the topic of the Learning Collaborative’s first webinar in 2024 – HEROES (Health care Rewards to Achieve Improved Outcomes) and webinar speakers.

2. **Overview of HEROES:** Darshak Sanghavi, Federal Office of APRA-H, provided an overview of the new HEROES program. See website [here](#) and additional details in attached slides.
 - The program will bring together public health entities and collaborators to improve the health status of their communities for specific patient populations as the program evaluates a new payment model that incentivizes community-based interventions to improve health outcomes across a fixed geography. The programs are regionally focused with the goal of rewarding positive health outcomes.
 - The draft solicitation: was posted on January 9, 2024 - <https://sam.gov>
 - Darshak outlined the problem this program is aimed at addressing: Preventive care is not working for many Americans – preventable events, declining life expectancy, high cost of care. HEROES is aimed at changing the system to focus on prevention.
 - Overview of program from slides:



- Targeted health outcomes include:
 - Maternal Health: Reduction in rate of intrapartum and postpartum severe obstetric complications.
 - Heart Attack and Stroke Risk: Reduction in aggregate 10-year risk of heart attack and stroke for people aged 40-70 years.
 - Opioid Overdose: Reduction in the number of emergency medical service calls for fatal and non-fatal opioid overdoses.
 - Alcohol-Related Health Harms: Reduction in the number of emergency medical services calls for alcohol-related emergencies.

- HEROES Overview:
 - Health Accelerators will propose a high-need geographic region in one of the four targeted health outcome categories listed above.
 - Each Health Accelerator will need to meet a population-specific goal that has been projected to generate at least \$60M value to society (across health care, productivity, and social service costs) over 3 years.
 - Health Accelerators must choose an entire geographic region and must serve every person in the area
 - Performers must choose a geographic area with performance worse than the national average and must have a plan to reach all people

- 3. **Texas HEROES Applicants:** Three sites in Texas intend to apply for the HEROES grant and each presented an overview of their proposals.
 - Sarah Churchill Lamas, Central Texas
 - Initial workgroup entities include:
 - United Way for Greater Austin
 - Austin Healthcare Council
 - Factor Health at Dell Medical School
 - Connexus
 - Planned strategy: Elevate our strengths in data utilization, collaboration building, and prioritizing technological innovations to establish a payment system in Central Texas that incentivizes outcomes, starting with a focus on improving Maternal Health.
 - Next Steps:
 - Convene partners
 - Determine geography
 - Adopt strategy
 - Create workgroups and project leaders
 - By role, e.g., “Accelerator, Outcome Buyer, Investors”
 - Identify geographic anchors
 - Create actuarially-based outcome measures
 - Establish timeline and milestones
 - Draft abstract
 - Interested payors should contact: Sarah Churchill Llamas - sllama@austinhealthcarecouncil.org

 - Cam Combs, Dallas Forth-Worth
 - Coalition includes:
 - PCCI
 - TCU School of Medicine
 - UT Southwestern Medical Center
 - Dallas Federal Funding Accelerator

- Strategy: Collaborate to drive innovation and dramatically improve maternal health outcomes in Dallas and Tarrant counties. Focused on combining clinical care and community coordination interventions.
 - Final design will be heavily driven on payor input – very eager to involve payors as early as possible in the process to inform the final strategy
 - Contact: Cam Combs, DFFA: cameron@dallasfundingaccelerator.org
- Shreela Sharma, Harris County
 - Health Equity Collective was established in 2018 and currently includes over 200 organizations and 50 coalitions. The Health Equity Collective is a core infrastructure initiative of the UTHealth Houston Center for Health Equity and UTHealth Houston serves as the backbone organization for the Collective.
 - Proposed strategy:
 - Leverage existing investments in technology and human capacity of care coordination to build a coordinated, equity-centered, population-wide ecosystem of care using an outcomes-based incentivized payment model in Harris County, Texas.
 - Improve outcomes in maternal health, heart attack and stroke risk.
 - Improve outcomes for all Harris County residents
 - Contact: Shreela Sharma: Shreela.V.Sharma@uth.tmc.edu
- 4. Rohan Subramanian, MayComb Capital:** [MayComb Capital](#) has the goal of driving long-term change in underserved communities and focuses on several areas including health care and social services. They invest and provide financing to help transform communities. They are interested in supporting HEROES initiatives across Texas if there is enough interest and buy-in from communities, health plans, and other necessary partners to ensure success.
- 5. Closing:** Health plans are encouraged to reach out to the contacts at each of the sites to learn more, begin conversations and develop partnerships for application submission. Please review power points for additional details.