Background

The *Blueprint for Complex Care* outlines the need for local complex care ecosystems to address the disparate systems encountered by individuals with complex needs. Ecosystems of care embody the ethos of complex care, which works to achieve health equity by delivering integrated services for people whose root causes of poor health defy existing boundaries among sectors and professions.

To address these concerns, the National Center for Complex Health and Social Needs (National Center), an initiative of the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers, developed the regional complex care convening program to catalyze information-sharing and collaboration and foster local complex care ecosystems. The National Center selected three host organizations in 2019 to address complex care barriers in their own communities. We received such an enthusiastic response in our first year that we will be expanding the project to six new host organizations to co-design their own regional complex care convenings in 2020.

If selected, host organizations will work with community partners to identify a regional issue to address through a convening of close stakeholders, act as a co-design convening partner with the National Center, and generally provide expertise and information about the assets and challenges of their own community to support the planning process. The National Center will serve as a co-convener through subject matter and convening expertise, access to national networks of subject matter experts as needed, limited funding for event costs, and $5,000 in funding for host organizations to support their involvement in the project.

Host organization information

In response to this request for proposal, host organizations will be required to describe a local/regional barrier to the wellbeing of individuals with complex health and social needs that a regional convening would make progress in overcoming. The description should make clear how this issue addresses complex health and social needs, contributes to complex care ecosystem development, and is multi-sector in nature.
Hosts will also be asked to provide an initial outline of the event. The National Center will work closely with hosts to further develop the concept upon selection. Some examples of possible convening formats include:

- Data-sharing convening to bring together legal and regulatory experts to help address local issues;
- The initiation of a group of multi-sector stakeholders to address opioid dependence and overdoses in the region; or
- Small group technical assistance on trauma-informed care implementation;

Finally, to ensure a strong local presence for the planning of the convening, hosts are asked to commit to the following:

- Provide resources to support the planning of an event, including the ability to secure the appropriate venue and facilitate on-the-ground logistics;
- Seek advising from consumers and/or community-based organizations on the development of the convening;
- Participate in at least one planning call per month with the National Center; and
- Develop at least one public-facing product about the project in partnership with the National Center.

Project logistics
The project will take place over 2020 with key dates as outlined below:

- RFP opens: January 15, 2020
- RFP closes: February 29, 2020
- Host organizations notified: Week of April 6, 2020
- Convenings take place: November, December 2020, first quarter of 2021

The $5,000 in funding will compensate the host organization for the staff time required to lead the event logistics, co-design the convening, and other required planning/implementation activities. Selected organizations will be required to enter into a contractual agreement with the Camden Coalition before funding is awarded.

Host organizations will be required to attend the National Center’s annual conference, Putting Care at the Center 2020 taking place in Philadelphia, PA from October 28-30, 2020.

The host organization application will be available on the National Center website 1/15/20: www.nationalcomplex.care/regional-convenings/.

Questions may be submitted to Alex Lipira at alipira@camdenhealth.org.

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About the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers

We are a multidisciplinary nonprofit working to improve care for people with complex health and social needs in Camden, NJ, and across the country. The Camden Coalition works to advance the field of complex care by implementing person-centered programs and piloting new models that address chronic illness and social barriers to health and wellbeing. Supported by a robust data infrastructure, cross-sector convening, and shared learning, our community-based programs deliver better care to the most vulnerable individuals in Camden and regionally.

Through our National Center for Complex Health and Social Needs (National Center), the Camden Coalition’s local work also informs our goal of building the field of complex care across the country. Launched in 2016, the National Center exists to inspire people to join the complex care community, connect complex care practitioners with each other, and support the field with tools and resources that move the field of complex care forward.

For more information about the Camden Coalition, visit www.camdenhealth.org.