

U.S. House and Senate Notification
Thursday, February 24, 2011

To: Congressional Health Staff

From: Amy Hall, Director, Office of Legislation
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Re: CMS Announces Availability of \$100 Million in Affordable Care Act Grants to Prevent Chronic Disease

As part of the nation's efforts to prevent an increase in the number of people with chronic health conditions, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) today announced a new, \$100 million program, authorized by Section 4108 of the Affordable Care Act, allowing states to offer incentives to Medicaid enrollees who adopt healthy behaviors such as quitting smoking or losing weight.

States may apply to CMS for grants to fund programs that demonstrate changes in health risk and outcomes, including the adoption of healthy behaviors.

One way to encourage difficult changes in life habits such as overeating or smoking, research has shown, is to offer incentives to those who reach stated goals. With that in mind, CMS will encourage states to adopt such strategies as rewarding Medicaid enrollees who meet goals established for them such as weight loss, smoking cessation or diabetes prevention or control.

States can get more information about the incentive grants at <http://www.cms.gov/MIPCD/>. Additionally, the funding opportunity announcement can be viewed at <http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=WsRQNmsSq1M61GGxqTnjrwjvHMXcyfsTJwQkWnPQyyJk9t2QX73p!-2044696977?oppId=73653&mode=VIEW>.

If you have questions about this announcement, please contact the CMS Office of Legislation.

Thank you.