

# Nationwide Children's Hospital Integrated Care for Kids (InCK) Model Ohio

**Lead Organization:** Nationwide Children's Hospital (NCH) (Award Recipient)

**Maximum Award Amount Over 7 Years:** \$14,921,737

**State Medicaid/CHIP Agency:** Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM)

**Model Goals:** Rural communities face daunting health challenges, including the opioid epidemic and substance use, social supports, and lack of access to physical and behavioral healthcare resulting from severe provider shortages. Despite such challenges, these communities have strong and dedicated local partnerships to support children and families. For these reasons, Ohio InCK selected two rural areas in eastern Ohio, Licking and Muskingum counties, to test new delivery models.

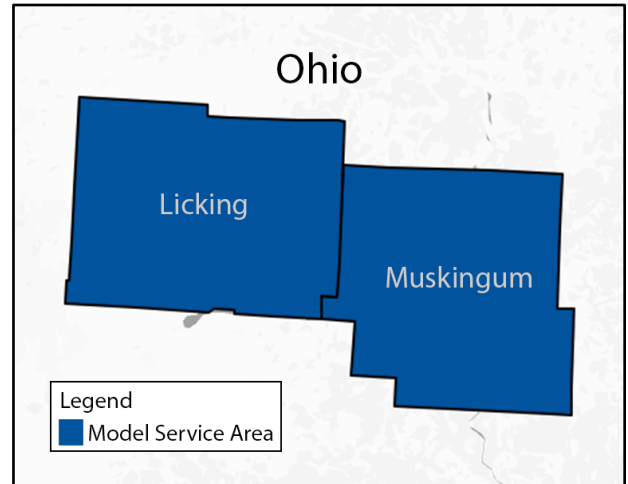
Ohio InCK provides an opportunity to generate significant results for a high-need population while testing locally tailored, whole-child, and whole-family approaches to address pressing pediatric needs in a rural area. The goals of Ohio InCK are to use the strength of local partnerships and community-based services, early identification and treatment, and enhanced care coordination and data sharing to address behavioral health needs and reduce out of home placement within the targeted population.

**Highlights:** Ohio InCK coordinates data and resources across state child serving systems and streamlines technology services across multiple agencies. The model closely collaborates with programs key to the statewide infrastructure supporting youth and their families enrolled in Medicaid such as OhioRISE. Ohio InCK harnesses a reusable system supporting both scalability and long-term sustainability, while creating a complete data-based picture of the child within the family and community context to ensure holistic and integrated care planning across sectors.

**Implementation Strategy:** NCH, in cooperation with state Core Child Service providers, has customized the structure and design of the Ohio InCK Model to tailor services to meet the needs of children and youth, particularly for children and youth involved in multiple systems (e.g., juvenile justice, child protective services, supports for intellectual/developmental disabilities) and others with complex behavioral health needs. The model leverages existing services and infrastructure to help coordinate services and supports across multiple healthcare entities and Core Child Service providers. It utilizes Single Point of Contact care coordination organizations to coordinate communication and collaboration across all providers. Medicaid managed care entities (MCEs) engaged with the beneficiary, develop care plans to address needs and barriers to care, schedule appointments, coordinate referrals, verify linkages to services, monitor/ update care plan progress, proactively address transitions in care, and communicate across beneficiaries, caregivers, and providers to ensure coordination of all services.

**Alternative Payment Model (APM):** The targeted counties of Licking and Muskingum fall within a 34-county footprint of NCH's Partners for Kids (PFK) Accountable Care Organization (ACO). PFK is the nation's first and largest exclusively pediatric ACO, providing care for over 430,000 children and youth through 2,200 providers. Establishing the APM within this footprint allows Ohio InCK to build upon PFK's existing provider network, infrastructure, partnership with state Medicaid MCEs, and stakeholder engagement strategies, facilitating regional scaling of the APM. The Ohio InCK APM has only upside-risk for providers, with two payment streams including a fee-for-service payment with performance-based incentives and a shared savings payment for InCK outcomes.

**Community Partners:** NCH and ODM support a Partnership Council of child-focused organizations to implement the Ohio InCK Model. Additionally, six state departments signed letters of support: Education, Job and Family Services, Youth Services, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Developmental Disabilities, and Health.



## Model Service Area & Population

**Target Population:** ~ 38,500 Medicaid beneficiaries from birth to age 21 living in two rural contiguous counties adjacent to Columbus: Licking and Muskingum counties.

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