



# Background of the Pregnancy Medical Home

During the 2023 legislative session the South Dakota state legislature appropriated \$3.1 million to support the creation of a new Pregnancy Health Home based on Governor Noem's budget recommendation.

- The majority of the funding will be used for provider payments.
- The appropriation also provides for two new DSS staff members to implement and run the program.

# Background of the Pregnancy Medical Home

The program is modeled on Medicaid's current **Primary Care Provider** and **Health Home** programs as well as ideas tested through **innovation grants**.

- DSS's Health Home model has shown an ability to achieve better health outcomes for individuals with chronic conditions through care coordination.
- DSS tested the concept of enhanced care management for pregnant Medicaid recipients through Primary Care and Prenatal Care Innovation Grants. Results showed:
  - Increased completion of high risk screening rates.
  - Increased rates of breastfeeding.
  - Increased early initiation of prenatal care.

## Program Objectives

High level objectives of the program include:

- Increase timeliness and utilization of prenatal, postpartum, and well-child care.
- Provide and connect pregnant and postpartum women with supports that help them to be healthy and thrive.
- Improve health outcomes for pregnant women and their babies.



Provider Qualifications will be similar to the PCP program.

- Eligible prenatal care providers include Medicaid enrolled:
  - Licensed physicians
  - Physician assistants
  - Certified nurse practitioner
  - Certified nurse midwife by the state
  - Federally qualified health care center
  - Rural health clinic
  - Indian Health Services
  - Tribal 638 providers



The intent is for the program to operate statewide and for all pregnant women to participate in the program.

- We anticipate will take time to fully develop provider capacity for statewide operation.
- Recipients will continue to stay in the program in the postpartum period.

## Pregnancy Medical Home Model

The pregnancy medical home model is still being developed internally and will be further modified with the input of stakeholders.

Anticipated elements of the program include:

- Providers are paid a Per Member Per Month fee and in return agree to provide enhanced services and services in accordance with established standards of care.
- Enhanced services may include:
  - Enhanced care coordination.
  - Enhanced screenings and referrals to community resources.
  - Enhanced collaboration with Department of Health programs such as Bright Start, Pregnancy Care, and WIC.
  - Quality improvement projects focused on early prenatal care, behavioral health disorders, access to care, or nutrition.

### **Next Steps**

DSS anticipates convening a stakeholder work group to provide input this summer. The work group will include:

- Healthcare providers and clinics
- DSS and DOH staff
- Tribal and IHS providers

We also plan to obtain recipient input through a variety of mechanisms including surveys and focus groups.

The program is anticipated to begin in 2024.

