

# ADvancing States Announces 5 States to Receive ARPA HCBS Technical Assistance

December 21, 2022

**ARLINGTON, VA** - ADvancing States is pleased to announce that **Alabama, Colorado, Delaware, Michigan, and Wisconsin** have been selected to receive intensive technical assistance (TA) for a select number of their American Rescue Plan Act Home and Community-Based Services (ARPA HCBS) initiatives. This technical assistance – delivered by ADvancing States and its partners in the ARPA HCBS TA Collective – will give states an opportunity to utilize the expertise of the TA Collective in specific areas, gaining insight on how to successfully execute their ARPA HCBS initiatives.

Made possible by generous funding from [The John A. Hartford Foundation](#), [the Care for all with Respect and Equity \(CARE\) Fund](#), [the Milbank Memorial Fund](#) and [The SCAN Foundation](#), each state will enjoy targeted implementation support for a select number of initiatives throughout 2023, starting in January.

**Alabama** will receive assistance with standardizing case management systems across departments as well as building a new service package to better serve children in foster care.

**Colorado** will be supported as they build a long-term plan for sustaining the significant investment in ARPA HCBS investments. The TA consultant will also assist the state in evaluating which pilot programs should be continued.

In **Delaware**, the TA team will support the design and implementation of HCBS innovation pilot grants for providers, advocacy organizations, or other entities to fund and evaluate new ways to deliver effective HCBS services.

**Michigan** will receive assistance on expanding Medicaid eligibility consistent with the new guidance contained in State Medicaid Director letter #21-004. The TA consultant will also support the design of a multi-faceted long-term care public education campaign to encourage pre-crisis planning for long-term care needs as well as national best practices for an independent options/choice counseling system.

In **Wisconsin**, the TA team will support implementation of three initiatives:

- A data collection and monitoring framework for assisted living facilities;
- Development of a section 1115 demonstration application to seek Federal funding for a program to delay Medicaid LTSS eligibility by providing a limited HCBS benefit.
- A statewide information technology platform to support the modernization of the State's Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs).

This project builds on prior rounds of TA which began in October 2021 and ended in June 2022. The ARPA HCBS TA Collective – with generous support from a range of funders – was able to

# ADvancing States Announce 5 States to receive ARPA HCBS Technical Assistance

support over 30 states with one or more aspects of their ARPA HCBS TA initiatives.

The ARPA HCBS initiatives are extensive and require a significant amount of work and planning to implement. Learnings from this TA engagement may help to inform future federal/state HCBS activities.

ADvancing States and the members of the ARPA HCBS TA Collective – the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services, Halperin Butera Consulting, Riverstone Health Advisors and Ventech Solutions - represent some of the nation's leading experts in HCBS policy and are excited to work with these states to improve services and supports for older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers.

## *About ADvancing States*

ADvancing States was founded in 1964 under the name National Association of State Units on Aging. In 2019, the association changed its name to ADvancing States. Today, ADvancing States represents the nation's 56 state and territorial agencies on aging and disabilities and long-term services and supports directors. ADvancing States supports visionary leadership, the advancement of systems innovation and the articulation of national policies that support long-term services and supports for older adults and people with disabilities and their caregivers.

## *About The John A. Hartford Foundation*

The John A. Hartford Foundation, based in New York City, is a private, nonpartisan, national philanthropy dedicated to improving the care of older adults. The leader in the field of aging and health, the Foundation has three priority areas: creating age-friendly health systems, supporting family caregivers, and improving serious illness and end-of-life care. For more information, visit [johnahartford.org](http://johnahartford.org) and follow [@johnahartford](https://twitter.com/johnahartford).

## *About the Care for All with Respect and Equity (CARE) Fund*

The CARE Fund brings diverse funders together to invest in movement building for universal publicly supported care infrastructures that will fuel economies, improve the wellbeing of kids and families, create millions of good jobs, promote equity, and enable people with disabilities and older adults to live independently with safety and dignity. Learn more at <https://www.carefund.org/>.

## *About the Milbank Memorial Fund*

The Milbank Memorial Fund is a nonpartisan foundation that aims to improve population health by connecting leaders with the best available evidence and experience. It does this work by:

- Identifying, informing, and inspiring current and future state health policy leaders to enhance their effectiveness

# ADvancing States Announce 5 States to receive ARPA HCBS Technical Assistance

- Convening state health policy decision makers on issues they identify as important to population health, particularly in areas related to primary care, aging, and sustainable health care costs
- Publishing high-quality, evidence-based publications and *The Milbank Quarterly*, a peer-reviewed journal of population health and health policy

## *About The SCAN Foundation*

The SCAN Foundation is an independent public charity dedicated to creating a society where older adults can access health and supportive services of their choosing to meet their needs. Our mission is to advance a coordinated and easily navigated system of high-quality services for older adults that preserve dignity and independence. Learn more at <https://www.thescanfoundation.org/> and [@TheSCANFndtn](#).