

Ohio | Department of Medicaid

July 25, 2019: The Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) and Ohio Medicaid’s Managed Care Plans (MCPs) are pleased to announce a [Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#) for coordinated community programs to target the disparity in the African American infant mortality rate in Butler, Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Lucas, Mahoning, Montgomery, Stark, and Summit Counties. ODM and the MCPs appreciate and look forward to this opportunity to continue our work with community-based organizations in these counties to ensure all children born in Ohio have a chance to thrive and live the healthy lives they deserve.

This biennium’s RFA and its submission process provide new structure, clarity, and direction to potential applicants. Several programmatic and administrative changes from previous funding cycles have been made to better drive toward our shared goals. Key changes include:

- One (1) single Primary Applicant, which will serve as the ‘Lead Agency’ for the county, must submit the application on behalf of itself and its Partnering Agencies for each county. This Primary Applicant will be responsible for coordinating county-wide approaches focused on reducing the African American Infant Mortality disparity.
- Primary Applicants will be required to communicate in writing with previously funded entities that are not included in the new application. Copies of these communications will need to be included in the RFA submission packet that will be reviewed by the MCPs and ODM.
- Maximum funding amounts per county are being provided within the RFA so Primary Applicants can intentionally plan county-wide budgetary requests for all participating entities and interventions.
- In addition to opportunities to receive funding for the three (3) evidence-based models (home visiting, community health workers, and Centering Pregnancy), applicants will have a chance to develop funding proposals for other community-based interventions to improve service delivery, maternal education, and/or health outcomes for African American women.
- Funded entities will be required to follow enhanced reporting and data sharing requirements. Further, applicants must identify a process to inform MCPs when one of their members are pregnant and/or enrolled in one of the communities’ interventions. Primary Applicants and their community partners must sign BAAs to create an opportunity for greater interaction with each MCP’s members that will be referred or contacted by any of the community partners.
- Letters of commitment from each Partnering Agency and disclosure of other funding sources from agencies (local, state, national, international) and supporting corporations must be included in the submission for transparency purposes.

Key Events and Dates:

July 25, 2019	Request for applications (RFA) released
July 29, 2019	Webinar for potential applicants at 11 AM. Click here to register for the webinar
August 2, 2019	Deadline for written questions – submit to infantmortality@medicaid.ohio.gov
August 9, 2019	Question and answer document posted to ODM’s website
August 12-16, 2019	Optional individual county TA sessions
September 13, 2019	Applications due by 5:00 EDT
October 11, 2019	Notice of awards
January 1, 2020	Project start date

[Register online](#) for the July 29 webinar. The webinar will be recorded and posted for later viewing on ODM’s website. All questions about this funding opportunity should be submitted in writing to infantmortality@medicaid.ohio.gov by August 2. Technical assistance sessions for individual counties can be requested by primary applicants; email infantmortality@medicaid.ohio.gov to schedule a session between August 12 and August 16.