Improvement Partnerships

What is an Improvement Partnership?

A durable, regional collaboration of public and private partners that uses measurement-based efforts and a systems approach to improve the quality of children's healthcare.

Why are States Developing Improvement Partnerships?

- Investments in improving the healthcare of children
- Recognition and embracing of local expertise – "all improvement is local"
- Innovation and success stories across the state are often not connected, nor broadly disseminated, limiting the impact on child health outcomes

What do Improvement Partnerships do?

- Develop and test tools, measures, and strategies
- Serve as a resource for improvement assistance
- Translate knowledge through engagement of national and local experts
- Disseminate findings – spreading successful approaches and informing policy
- Serve as a convener – "honest broker"

Where are Improvement Partnerships Located?

- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) State Chapter:
  - Arizona, Minnesota, Oregon, West Virginia
- Department of Health & Welfare:
  - Maine, New York, Ohio, Washington
- University:
  - New Mexico, Oklahoma, Utah, Vermont
- Medicaid:
  - Connecticut, Michigan
- Children's Hospital:
  - District of Columbia

Questions and Answers about State Improvement Partnerships

How did the National Improvement Partnership Network (NIPN) come about?

NIPN was established in July 2009 in response to growing interest from Improvement Partnership states that wanted to pool resources and share learning. Funding was initially provided through a grant from The Commonwealth Fund, and ongoing funding is currently provided through a federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) demonstration grant. Leadership for the Network is provided by the Vermont Child Health Improvement Program (VCHIP).

What is the Role of the National Improvement Partnership Network (NIPN)?

- Serve as a convener for the states
- Sharing, problem solving, and connecting states and regions
- Offer a repository for tools, materials, and speakers
- Provide technical assistance and mentorship in developing and maintaining an improvement partnership
- Act as an advisor to the federal government and other national initiatives
- Scholarship – publishing results
- Help shape funding opportunities

Where can I Get More Information about Improvement Partnerships?

The National Improvement Partnership Network website:

www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/improvementpartnerships

Or, you may contact the Idaho Children's Healthcare Improvement Collaboration (CHIC) project team:

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