

**NJ InCK**  
*NJ Integrated Care for Kids*

**OUR YOUTH.**  
**OUR FUTURE.**



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# NJ InCK- The Cooperative Agreement

- Model awarded to six states- NJ, CT, NY, IL, NC, OH; NJ InCK received \$15.8 million over a seven-year period. **Launched in January of 2022.**
- Pilot is for Monmouth and Ocean Counties and the nearly 140,000 children under 21 enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP.
- Hackensack Meridian *Health* is the lead organization, partnering with the VNA of Central Jersey, and New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute. NJ FamilyCare (NJ Medicaid) is involved in all aspects of the model, including working with CMS as needed for the model to work.
- Supporting organizations include NJ American Academy of Pediatrics and Central Jersey Family Health Consortium.
- National InCK model aims to improve outcomes, reduce Emergency Department use, inpatient admissions and out-of-home placements for escalated behavioral needs and substance use disorders through coordinated efforts between juvenile justice, education, child welfare, and other core services assisted by InCK funded integrated care coordination/technology and state specific changes to Medicaid payments/incentives (aka Alternative Payment Model or APM)



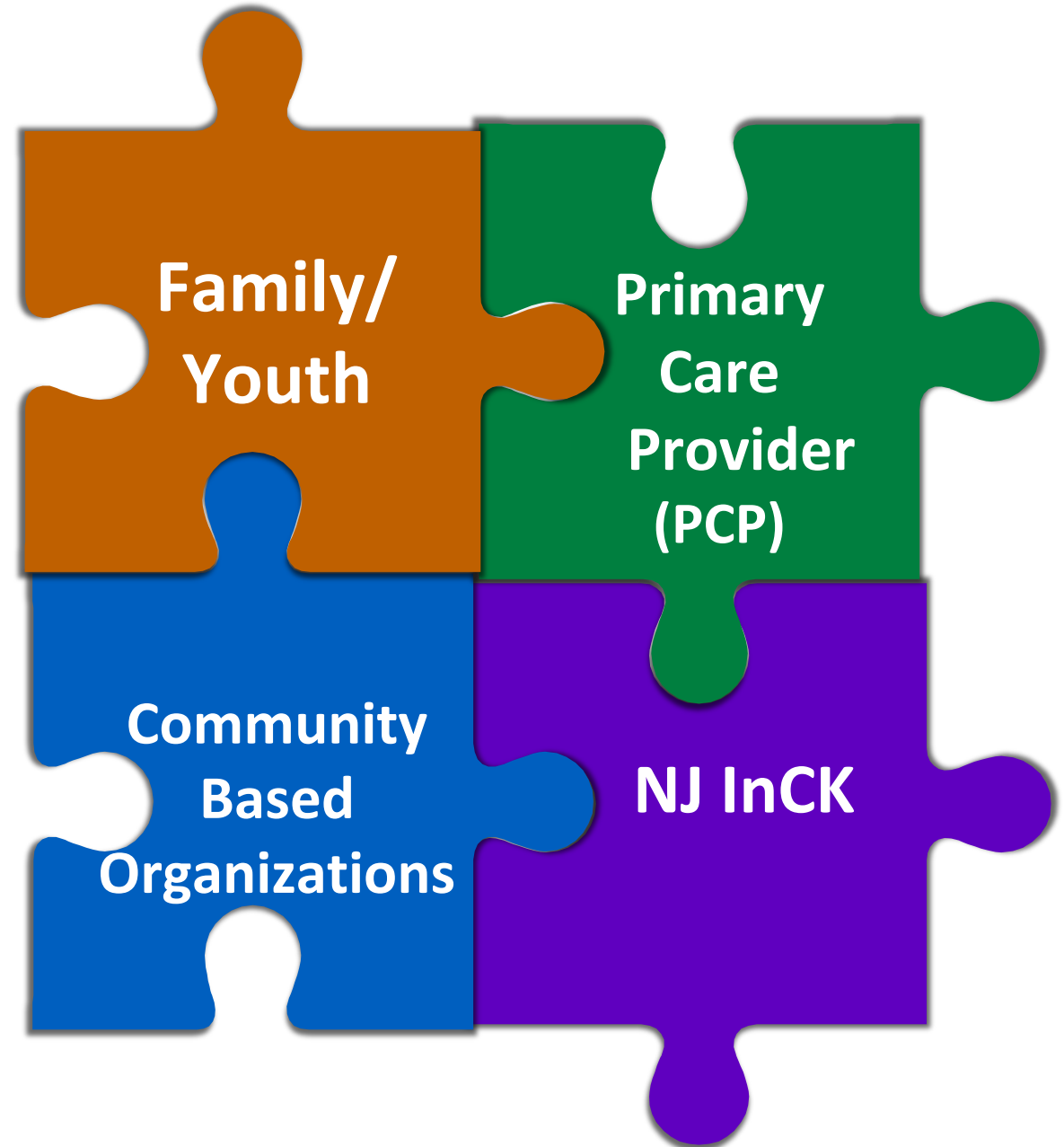
# Integrated Care for Kids (InCK)

- NJ and 6 other sites around the country are part of the CMMI cooperative agreement, funded from **2020 through 2026**
  - **NJ** — HMH, VNACJ, & NJHCQI
  - **NY** — NYS DOH/Montefiore
  - **CT** — Clifford Beers Guidance Clinic, New Haven
  - **NC** — Duke & UNC
  - **IL** — Lurie Children's Hospital; Egyptian Regional Health Department
  - **OH** — Nationwide Children's Hospital
- All kids 0-20 covered by Medicaid/CHIP in a defined service area
- In NJ, it includes NJ FamilyCare beneficiaries in Monmouth & Ocean Counties.  
**The NJ InCK pilot launched in January of 2022**



# GOAL of NJ InCK

To provide a platform for **Families/Youth** to partner with their **Primary Care Provider** and **Community Based Organizations** to have **Optimal Health and Life Outcomes**.



# New Jersey's 1115 Waiver Renewal

- States can apply for program flexibility to waive certain provisions of the federal Medicaid law and test policy innovations that promote Medicaid program objectives through **1115 Waivers**. Waivers last for 5 years and can be renewed by the state to include new program demonstrations.
- Under 1115 Waivers, states have considerable flexibility to design and improve their programs, including:
  - Providing coverage to otherwise ineligible populations
  - Providing services not typically covered by Medicaid or a segment of the covered population
  - Experimenting with cost sharing and other payment reforms
  - Implementing changes to the delivery system
- The NJ 1115 Waiver renewal was approved by CMS at the end of March 2023 and includes many innovative ways to support families outside of traditional healthcare, including housing support, access to healthy food, and a Community Health Worker pilot, through the managed care organizations.
- The NJ 1115 Waiver renewal also allows the NJ InCK model to be piloted in Monmouth and Ocean counties, through a waiver of state-wideness.



# NJ InCK Health Story

*A Health Assessment provides opportunity to identify challenges that Impact Health Outcomes.*

## General Questions

- **Beneficiary General Health**
- **Behavioral and Mental Health**
- **Development and Education**
- **Health Care Access**
- **Wellness Health**
- **Parent and Guardian Health**

## Social Determinants of Health

- **Economic Stability**
- **Housing**
- **Food Insecurity**
- **Transportation**
- **Language and Literacy Barriers**
- **Trauma and Safety**



# What is NJ InCK?

NJ InCK is a population health program designed to improve how Primary Care and Community Based Care partner together to deliver and provide additional support to families.

Ways the NJ InCK improves care:

- Pediatric and Family Primary Care providers will be provided with a Health Story Report from NJ InCK CIM.
- Families with higher levels of medical, behavior and social needs are offered additional supports from the NJ InCK Advanced Care Management Team.



# NJ InCK Care Integration

- The InCK Care Team works with families whose children have the highest medical, behavioral and SDOH Challenges
- The family and Care Team create an Integrated Care Plan (shared plan of care)
- Goals are set by the parent/guardian/beneficiary and the team works with the family to meet these goals and insure access to community based services that will support both the family and child/youth.





# Care Integration Team

## Care Integration Manager (CIM)

- Introduces NJ InCK to the family by providing support with accessing and completing the HealthStory
- Gather information from family/beneficiary on their needs
- Liaison with Primary Care and Community Based Programs who are within the families “Circle of Care”

## Advanced Care Management Team (ACMT)

- **LSW** - Licensed Social Worker leads the team and is responsible for making sure families are on track to meet their goals
- **CHW** - Community Health Worker works directly with family in accessing services
- **CCLS** - Certified Child Life Specialist assist children dealing with medical and emotional trauma or life transitions
- **FFS** - Family Support Coordinator works with families to help them navigate the educational system



# Care Coordination Accomplishments

**Overall parents learn about educational and community resources available that they did not even know existed prior to being enrolled with InCK**

- **Teaching families to become self-sufficient within their communities**

- **Medical:**
  - Bilingual CHW assists families to communicate with their healthcare providers to improve understanding of children's diagnoses; addresses language as a barrier
- **Social:**
  - Families successfully apply and receive SNAP benefits, utility assistance, and rental assistance; continually express gratitude and relief
  - Linking to Community Based Organizations
- **Educational:**
  - FSS helps families write letters to send to the district Child Study Team and the parents requests are typically approved
  - Teaching legal aspects of child's education and how to advocate for their child
  - "I'm not here to do it for you, I'm here to build your capacity because you have a long journey ahead of you."
- **Emotional:**
  - CCLS provides emotional support to the sibling of a terminally ill child



# Family Story: “ James Family”

- **Background**
  - 4 children referred all with medical complexities, including newborn in NICU, and 3 older siblings.
- **NJ InCK progress towards goals (to date):**
  - Connected family with pediatric medical daycare and early intervention so these services are in place when the infant is discharged from the NICU
  - Assisting mother to navigate Section 8 Housing
  - Referred older children to Big Brothers/Big Sisters Programs
  - Family Support Specialist is helping to facilitate communication between the mother and school in the creation of Individual Health Plans (IHPs) for the older children



# Family Story: “Allie”

- **Background**
  - School age child with complex medical history including prematurity. Child has had many medical complications over the years. Child is supported by multiple medical specialists.
  - Child has 5 siblings and there is a history of domestic violence
- **NJ InCK progress towards goals (to date):**
  - Referrals to legal assistance
  - Referrals for housing support
  - Assisted mother in communicating with MCO for exploring medical equipment.
  - Child life specialist will be working with the child to provide medical play and emotional support for child and siblings as needed
  - Provided resources for holiday gift support



# Family Story: “Eric”

- **Background**
  - Child has severe asthma which has resulted in multiple hospitalizations.
  - Child’s father injured his back and has had 5 surgeries. He is considered disabled and is unable to work. Family reports nutritional concerns for child, educational, financial and transportation concerns
- **NJ InCK progress towards goals (to date):**
  - Child has an IEP but the family felt disconnected from the process. FSS provided education to family about their rights and the child’s rights and is actively facilitating collaboration between the family and school on the IEP
  - CHW provided referrals for rental & utility assistance
  - CHW provided education to family on resource for medical transportation and is supporting family in navigating access
  - CHW supported family in communicating with PCP regarding nutritional needs



# How Can You Help?

Be a NJ InCK Champion by:

- Getting the word out about NJ InCK to your team members
- Have NJ InCK informational materials easily accessible in your office
- Access the NJ InCK Interest Form below to assist families by telling them about NJ InCK and completing a short demographic questionnaire.

**Start Here**



(scan QR code)

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**OR**

Website - <https://njinck.org/>  
click “Share your child’s NJInCK HealthStory”



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# Who is eligible for NJ InCK? Who to Contact?

## Who is eligible for NJ InCK?

- Families with children birth through 20 years of age
- Enrolled in Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare
- Live in Ocean and Monmouth Counties

## Who to Contact?

Call the NJ InCK Team at 855-619-4445 (Option 2)

or by reaching out to:

Mary Remhoff, NJ InCK Clinical Coordinator

[Mary.Remhoff@vnahg.org](mailto:Mary.Remhoff@vnahg.org), 732-337-0565



# Next Steps

Let's work together!!

# Thank You

