

The Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) is a national non-profit consulting organization with over 18 years of experience in working with federal, state and local governments. TAC is committed to supporting the efforts of public managers and purchasers to successfully plan and implement the design, financing, and management of public sector human services for low-income and vulnerable populations. TAC's highly successful collaborative consulting model deploys teams of experts to assist purchasers in analyzing available information to make smart, well-informed, and strategic public policy and finance decisions that are grounded in the context of each state's administrative infrastructure, financial resources, and political environment. Since its founding in 1992, TAC has provided technical assistance and consultation to over 150 county or other local public authorities and more than 35 state behavioral health, human services and/or Medicaid authorities.

TAC's specific areas of skill, knowledge, and experience include:

- Assisting states to plan and develop Medicaid waivers and state plan amendments including supporting states in their negotiations with CMS (Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Washington)
- Planning and developing procurement processes and requests for proposals to select managed care organizations or administrative service organizations (Connecticut, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Washington, New Mexico, Ohio, Iowa, Illinois, District of Columbia)
- Working with states, local authorities, and providers to plan and implement best practice systems of care for children, adolescents, and adults with behavioral health and/or human services needs (Arizona, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina)
- Identifying clinical and operational best practices and assisting the authority to implement such best practices through leadership, gap analysis, financing, training, outcome and performance measurement, and quality management and improvement efforts (Arizona, Hawaii, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico, North Carolina, Washington, Washington, D.C.)
- Designing effective prudent purchasing and performance contracting systems for payers/purchasers to implement positive incentives for quality, cost efficiency and best practice among service providers (District of Columbia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, North Carolina)
- Conducting comprehensive evaluations of the effects of behavioral health initiatives in the public sector (Montana, North Carolina, Virginia)
- Helping states and counties to develop appropriate statutory, regulatory, and financing approaches to foster best practices and to provide incentives for quality and performance (District of Columbia, Georgia, Iowa, Montana, New Mexico, North Carolina, Washington)

- Developing and analyzing data from multiple quantitative and qualitative data sources to identify patterns and trends in service delivery systems (Arizona, Montana, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas)
- Designing outcome and performance measurement systems and continuous quality improvement systems (Connecticut, Montana, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, King County, WA)
- Assisting state and local systems to take proactive steps to reduce the risk of lawsuits and institutional cost overruns through implementation of best practice community service modalities (Milwaukee County, WI; Allegheny County, PA; New Jersey, North Carolina, City of Philadelphia)
- Providing expert guidance and consultation to states involved in EPSDT and *Olmstead* lawsuits, most notably in *Rosie D. v. Patrick*, *Arnold v. Sarn*, *DRNJ v. Velez*, *Chambers v. San Francisco*, and *DAI v. Patterson*

TAC's Medicaid related work has not been limited to the state and county-level. TAC was selected by the President's New Freedom Mental Health Commission to prepare issue papers and provide staff consultation related to Medicaid financing for mental health services. TAC is currently working with CMS and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on a multi-agency effort intended to improve collaboration at the federal state and local level to increase access to affordable housing for people enrolled in the Money Follows the Person initiative. TAC has also been tapped by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to provide expert consultation on how states can use Medicaid to create a services infrastructure in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). In addition, TAC was recently engaged in a study commissioned by Assistant Secretary of Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as a subcontractor, providing Medicaid expertise on a Supported Employment financing project.

TAC's fluency in federal Medicaid rules and regulations and experience assisting states with large-scale system reform efforts, leaves TAC poised to assist states in implementation, analysis, and planning related to the rapidly approaching changes brought on by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). TAC's team of knowledgeable staff and affiliates can provide analysis on how to best make use of the opportunities and navigate the challenges presented by the ACA, including changes in Medicaid eligibility rules, the initiatives to create medical homes and to integrate health and behavioral health, and the various initiatives to rebalance and control long-term care costs.

In this current economic climate, TAC is acutely aware of the seemingly impossible job faced by Medicaid and human service agencies of having to "serve more with less." TAC has the skill, experience, and knowledge to assist purchasers in making those difficult policy and financing decisions.