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## **Medicaid reform initiative expands again with focus on people with disabilities; Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute is newest partner**

GOLDEN VALLEY, Minn. – The latest addition to Minnesota’s Integrated Health Partnerships (IHP) initiative is Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute, a part of Allina Health that serves people with disabilities and complex medical conditions.

Human Services Commissioner Lucinda Jesson announced the new IHP partner on Tuesday at one of the Institute’s facilities in Golden Valley. She also toured the facility.

The IHP demonstration project is a groundbreaking approach to delivering quality health care more efficiently for low-income people. The initiative now includes 16 provider groups covering nearly 200,000 people enrolled in public health care programs across the state.

The Institute’s IHP will serve about 1,650 people in Hennepin and Ramsey counties. The goal is to optimize the health of people with disabilities by recognizing and integrating services for both their medical and non-medical needs, spanning the spectrum of care from primary and specialty care to community and in-home services.

“We’re encouraged to see the Integrated Health Partnerships initiative keep growing, particularly to include more people with disabilities and complex medical conditions,” Jesson said. “The people we serve in public health care programs are getting better, more coordinated care at a lower cost.”

The Minnesota Department of Human Services’ initiative is built around a new payment model that prioritizes quality, preventive health care and rewards providers for reaching mutually targeted health goals. In contrast, the traditional payment system pays providers for the volume of care they deliver, rather than the quality of care they provide. In the IHP model, providers who deliver care for less than a targeted cost are eligible for a share of the savings.

In the IHP’s first year in 2013, the original six provider groups serving 100,000 MA enrollees spent \$10.5 million less than projected.

Through the IHP initiative, Minnesota is leading a growing number of states to implement an Accountable Care Organization in its Medicaid program, with the goal of improving care. The project is a significant component of a \$45 million federal State Innovation Model (SIM) grant

supporting health care reform in Minnesota. Several IHP participants have received SIM-funded grants for their efforts to improve health care through innovations.

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