

# **The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health Receives Funding to Improve Transition for Young Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities**

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The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health has received funding from the [WITH Foundation](#) to improve the transition for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) from pediatric to adult health care. The National Alliance will partner with The HSC Health Care System in Washington, DC to implement this first-of-its-kind transition value-based payment model. The 3-year project will 1) incentivize child and adult practices to establish evidence-based transition supports for low-income young adults with IDD, and 2) achieve improvements in the transitional care process and young adult retention in care, satisfaction, and appropriate use of health care.

Latest data from the National Survey of Children's Health reveal that 83% of youth, ages 12-17, with special health care needs did not receive necessary transition assistance from their health care providers. Without a structured transition process, young adults experience adverse impacts such as low health literacy, gaps in access and use of care, worsening health conditions, dissatisfaction, and preventable emergency room visits and hospitalizations. Young adults with IDD represent an especially diverse population in terms of level of functioning and medical needs, which can make the transition process more time-consuming and complex. In DC and the US, there are no financial incentives for providers to offer recommended transition supports for young adults with IDD. This project will address this pervasive transition system gap through an innovative value-based transition payment model.

"We see this as a great opportunity to better assist individuals with intellectual disabilities to successfully transition their health care from pediatric to adult providers, while recognizing the additional support required by both pediatric and adult providers to make this happen. This will ensure that fewer individuals with intellectual disabilities have gaps in care which can lead to poor health outcomes," said Nathaniel Beers, MD, President and CEO of The HSC Health Care System.

For more information about this project, please visit The National Alliance at [TheNationalAlliance.org](http://TheNationalAlliance.org) or contact Samhita Ilango at [silango@thenationalalliance.org](mailto:silango@thenationalalliance.org).

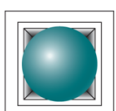
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## **About The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health**

The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to achieve long-term, systemic improvements in comprehensive health care and insurance coverage for adolescents. Through policy analysis, technical assistance, quality improvement, and advocacy, The National Alliance works to promote effective transitions from pediatric to adult health care as part of its [Got Transition™](#) program. In collaboration with others, The National Alliance also works to expand the availability of adolescent-centered care, access to mental health services, and improvements in health insurance coverage for adolescents and young adults. For more information, visit [TheNationalAlliance.org](http://TheNationalAlliance.org).

## **About the HSC Health Care System and Health Services for Children with Special Needs, Inc. (HSCSN)**

The HSC Health Care System is a nonprofit health care organization committed to serving people with complex health care needs and eliminating barriers to health services. One component of the HSC Health Care System is Health Services for Children with Special Needs, Inc. (HSCSN), a Medicaid plan serving children, youth, and young adults from birth up to age 26 who live in Washington, DC and receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI). HSCSN provides a comprehensive set of benefits and extensive care management support as its young adults transition into adulthood. For more information, visit [hschealth.org](http://hschealth.org).



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