FY 2021 National Hypertension Control Initiative Supplemental Funding for Health Centers (NHCI-HC)

Question and Answer Session for Health Center Awardees

Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC)

Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People

Agenda

- National Hypertension Control Initiative (HTN Initiative)
- NHCI-HC Award Overview
- Training and Technical Assistance
- Monitoring and Oversight

Presenters

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HRSA
Health Center Program

HTN Initiative

National Hypertension Control Initiative:
Addressing Disparities Among Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations

https://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/hypertension/

NHCI-HC Award Overview

Office of Policy and Program Development

Award Impact

Nearly $90 million for 496 awards in 48 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Palau, and Federated States of Micronesia
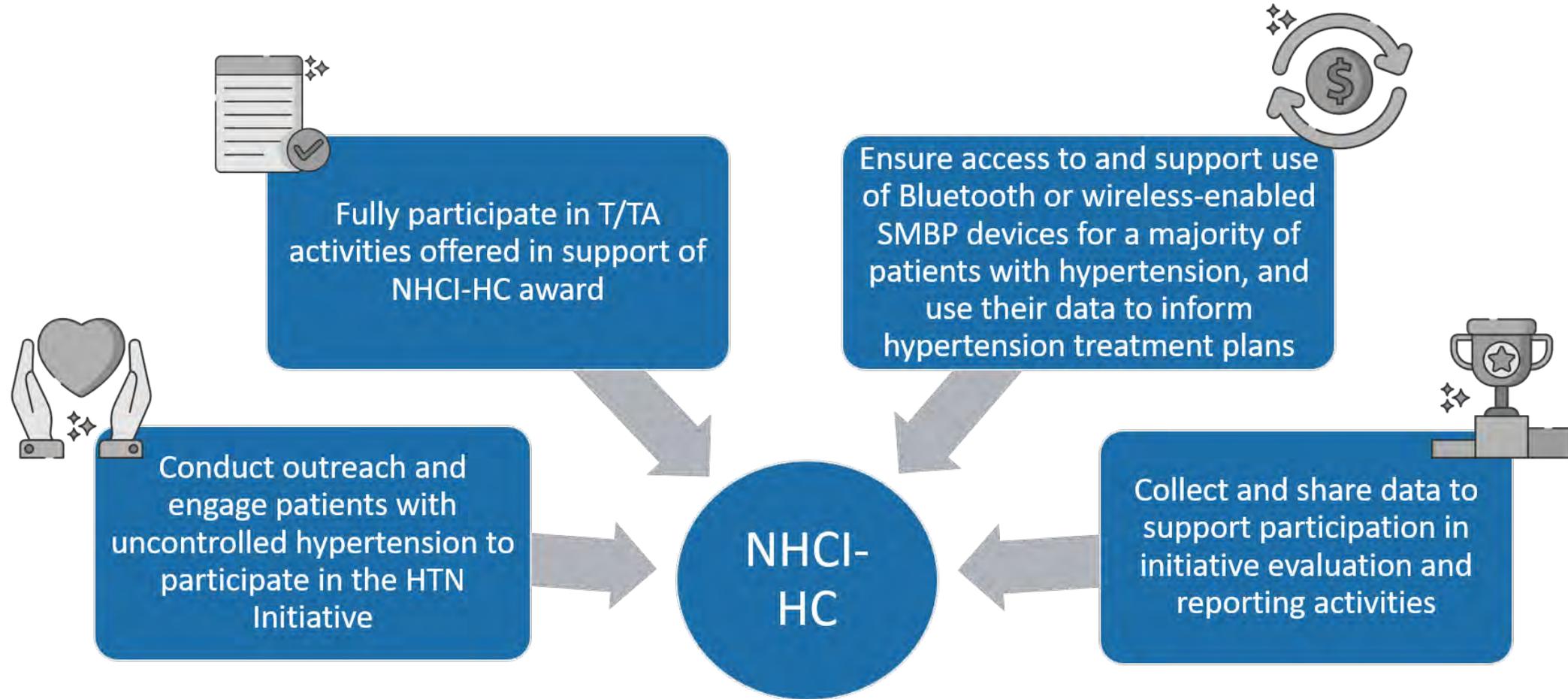
View NHCI-HC investments by locale

Purpose

- **Increase provider and staff engagement** in implementing evidence-based practices, including advanced **self-measured blood pressure (SMBP) technology**, to **increase controlled hypertension**

- 3-year funding received up front for NHCI-HC activities through the end of the FY 2023 H80 budget period

Requirements

Fully participate in T/TA activities offered in support of NHCI-HC award

Ensure access to and support use of Bluetooth or wireless-enabled SMBP devices for a majority of patients with hypertension, and use their data to inform hypertension treatment plans

Conduct outreach and engage patients with uncontrolled hypertension to participate in the HTN Initiative

NHCI-HC

Collect and share data to support participation in initiative evaluation and reporting activities

Example Allowed Costs

Personnel

Health information technology (health IT) staff; patient educator; project manager; quality improvement staff; clinical and other support staff

Training

Adopt new workflows that follow clinical guidelines; use of RPM; teach patients to use SMBP devices

Supplies

SMBP devices; outreach materials; digital platforms and tools to support SMBP use and integration into EHRs

Equipment

Servers, EHR purchase or upgrade ($150,000 maximum across all 3 years)

Health IT

Information technology to support data security and data privacy; broadband data

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Remote Patient Monitoring Resources

- HTN Initiative training and technical assistance provider
  - American Heart Association (AHA)
  - National experience using digital platforms to support the use of SMBP devices
- Million Hearts® 2022
- ONC Health IT and ONC Patient Engagement Playbooks
- HRSA strategic partners
  - Health Information Technology Training and Technical Assistance Center (HITEQ)
  - Health Center Controlled Networks
  - Telehealth Resource Centers
- BroadbandUSA
- FCC Lifeline subsidy program

Helpful Tips

- Health centers have until the end of the 3-year period to make SMBP devices available to a majority of patients 18 to 85 years old diagnosed with hypertension
- Options to make devices available include, but are not limited to:
  - Purchase
  - Develop a loaner program
  - Work with insurance companies
  - Use already available devices (health center or patient owned)
- SMBP devices
  - Must be Bluetooth or wireless-enabled
  - SMBP data are to be electronically transmitted from the patient to the health center
- Not every patient to whom devices are made available will participate

Ineligible Costs

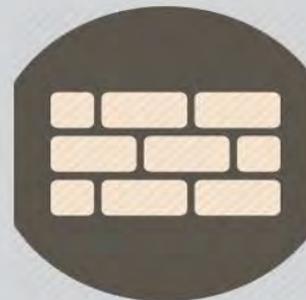Costs supported by other Health Center Program funds

New construction activities, including additions or expansions

Purchase or upgrade of EHRs not ONC certified

Facility or land purchases; purchase or installation of trailers and pre-fabricated modular units

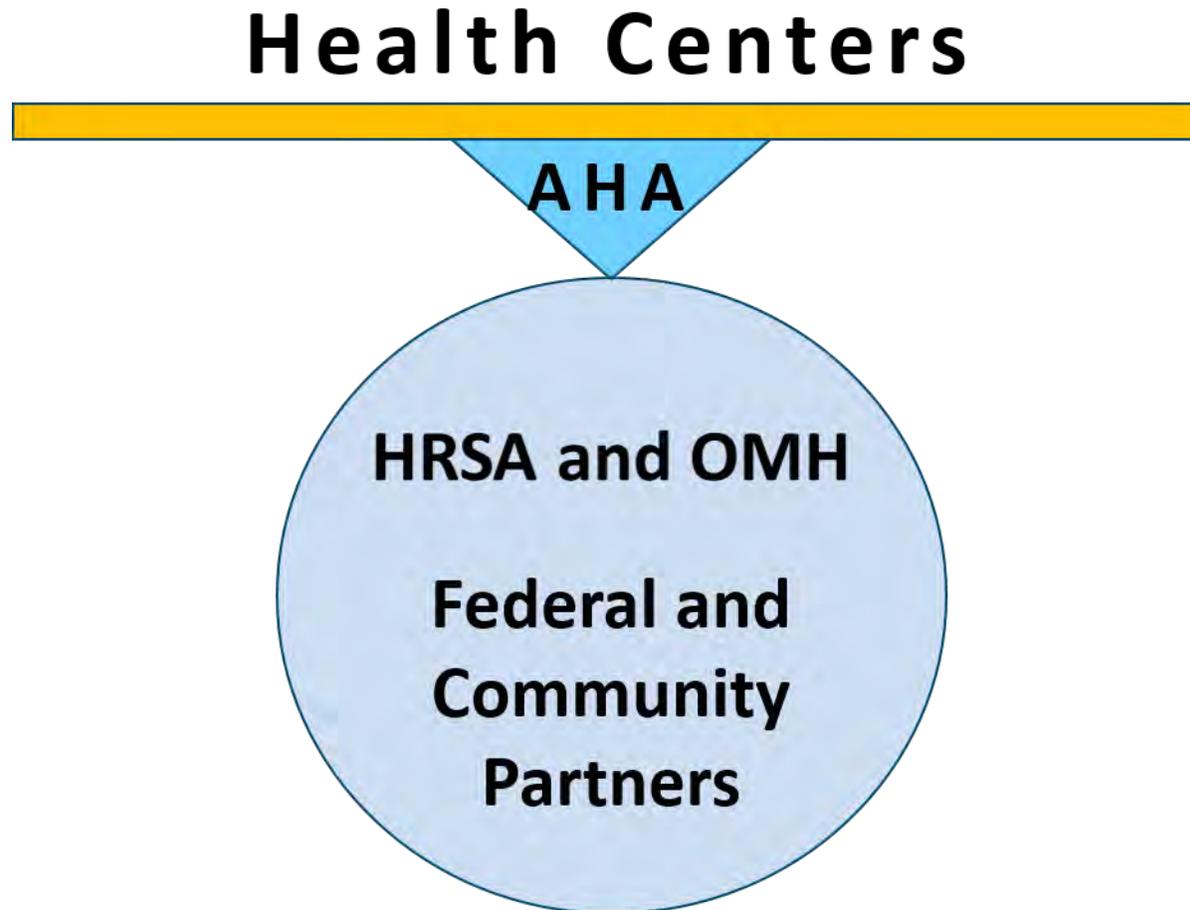Minor alteration or renovation (A/R) projects

Mobile units, vehicles to transport patients or health center personnel

Training and Technical Assistance

Office of Quality Improvement

The HTN Initiative Neighborhood

Priority Anticipated Outcomes

Aspirational   Concrete

DECREASE (downward arrow)

- Disengaged patients living with HTN

- Systolic and diastolic BP levels among patients with HTN

- Mortality rates for hypertensive heart disease, stroke and ischemic heart disease
  - *County-level estimates of emergency department visits for hypertension crisis*
  - *County-level rates of hospital discharges for hypertension crisis*

Measurable   Achievable

INCREASE/IMPROVE (upward arrow)

- HTN medication adherence

- Number of health centers with ≤ 80% controlled HTN

- # of patients screened for HTN

- Patient education, knowledge, understanding of HTN – SDoH lens

- Culture change around workflow, treatment protocols, SMBP-based strategies for patient engagement

- Health and digital literacy
  - *Years of healthy life expectancy*

HRSA
Health Center Program

How Do We Get There From Here?

Evaluation (Ongoing)	Technical Assistance (Evidence-based best & promising practices provided by AHA)	Partnership Development	Other Activities
• Assessments • Polling • Surveying • Reporting • Categorizing	• Web-based learning • Learning collaborative • Small group intensive and topic-specific • Larger group less intensive (Office-Hours) • Specialized 1X1s • Support from federal partners	• Community organizations • NGOs • Faith-based organizations • Federal partners • Supporting clinical efforts	• Peer-to-Peer engagement • Patient engagement and education via workshops, seminars, 1x1s • Incentive and award programs

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What Comes Next?

- AHA will be reaching out to you to:
  - Gather information on targeted patient population
  - Perform readiness assessments
  - Assess early needs for TA
  - Provide early guidance on setting goals – short term, longer term
  - Provide guidance on reporting
  - Develop TA that best fits needs

CONGRATULATIONS

Monitoring and Oversight

NHCI-HC Funding Support Team

Post-Award Monitoring & Oversight

NHCI-HC Funding Support Team

- Review and process post-award submissions

- Maintain routine communications regarding project implementation

- In coordination with AHA, identify and address recipients' TA needs

Post-Award Submissions

- NHCI-HC Project Condition

- Semi-Annual Progress Report

- Annual Expenditure Report

- Annual UDS Submission
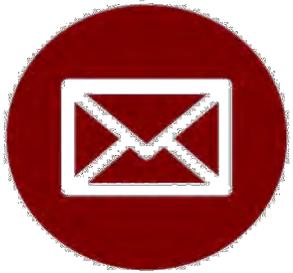
Post-Award Monitoring & Oversight (2 of 2)

Terms and Conditions

- Nine (9) Terms

- Project Plan Condition

- Budget Condition

- Condition responses required **within 30 days** of award

Key Resources

- Notice of Award
- [NHCI-HC Technical Assistance Webpage](#)

For programmatic questions, e-mail **NHCI-Support@hrsa.gov**

For budget questions, contact your **Grants Management Specialist**

Questions