

HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION

CHART: COMMUNITY HOSPITAL ACCELERATION, REVITALIZATION, AND TRANSFORMATION INVESTMENTS

CHARTING A COURSE FOR THE RIGHT CARE AT THE RIGHT TIME IN THE RIGHT PLACE

WHAT IS CHART? Established through the Commonwealth’s landmark cost containment law, Chapter 224 of the Acts of 2012, CHART is a grant program that will make phased investments for certain Massachusetts community hospitals to enhance their delivery of efficient, effective care. The goal of the program is to promote care coordination, integration, and delivery transformations; advance electronic health records adoption and information exchange among providers; increase alternative payment methods and accountable care organizations; and enhance patient safety, access to behavioral health services, and coordination between hospitals and community-based providers and organizations.

WHO ARE CHART-ELIGIBLE HOSPITALS? CHART eligibility is established through criteria specified through regulation and Chapter 224. Hospitals that receive CHART funds include non-profit, non-teaching community hospitals with relatively low prices. For this Phase 1 of CHART Investments, 31 acute care hospitals, varying in size and affiliation and located across the Commonwealth, are eligible to receive funds.

WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF PHASE 1 OF CHART? The HPC is issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit responses from eligible community hospitals. Appreciating that community hospitals are diverse in size, geographic location, population need, financial health, affiliation with systems, and previous experience with investment funds, and accordingly have varied resource needs, the HPC has established a phased approach to investments. CHART’s Phase 1 will provide initial support for short term, high-need expenditures. Through these projects, the HPC will assess the capability and capacity of participating institutions, develop engagement and foster learning among CHART-eligible hospitals, and build a foundation for system transformation. Projects will include:

- Implementation of pilot models that improve quality of care and/or reduce cost
- Building capability or capacity that align with the goals of better health, better health care, and lower costs
- Meaningful operational and business planning activities that will yield a strategic vision towards system transformation

HOW MUCH FUNDING IS AVAILABLE? The HPC is making a total of \$10 million available for Phase 1 investments, out of the \$119.08 million in funding available through the CHART Investment Program over the next four years. Each eligible hospital can receive up to \$500,000 in Phase 1.

“Community hospitals are an essential part of the equation to achieve a high value health care system. Phase 1 of CHART will set a strong and immediate foundation for our future work, and position us to bring about long-term, sustainable change at the institutions communities across our Commonwealth depend on.”

Paul Hattis, MD, JD, MPH – HPC Commissioner

