

KATHY HOCHUL Governor

JAMES V. McDONALD, MD, MPH
Commissioner

JOHANNE E. MORNE, MS Executive Deputy Commissioner

November 6, 2025

Dear Chief Executive Officers and Hospital Administrators:

The Office of Health Insurance Programs (OHIP) has launched the Social Care Network (SCN) program to ensure that the health-related social needs (HRSNs) of Medicaid members are consistently identified and addressed in order to improve health outcomes.

I am writing to strongly request your partnership in ensuring that members can access these critical Medicaid funded services, including nutrition, housing, transportation, and care management.

What are SCNs

OHIP has established <u>9 regional SCNs</u> across the state, each comprised of a Lead Entity who coordinates a network of HRSN-focused community-based organizations and provider partners, to screen, navigate, and deliver HRSN services. To receive HRSN services, individuals must be screened using the <u>Accountable Health Communities (AHC) screening tool</u>, per CMS requirements.

Why SCNs matter for your patients

The SCN program offers a unique opportunity for members to access Medicaid-covered HRSN services and resources. With trust-based connections to Medicaid members, New York's providers are uniquely positioned to conduct these screenings and help members access SCN services.

By conducting screenings, providers not only help connect members to needed services that improve health outcomes, but also unlock new revenue streams (e.g., someone screening full time could generate \$100K+ in revenue per year – clinical staff, care managers, resource coordinators, and community health workers are among those eligible to provide screening and staff services).¹

How you can support to ensure your patients can access SCN services

^{1.} Organizations can be reimbursed for screening at \$17.50 per 15-min, up to \$35 per screening

On behalf of Medicaid members and families, I ask that every organization work with their SCN Lead Entity within the next 4-6 weeks to begin conducting screenings and referring members to the SCN program for HRSN services. There are multiple ways providers can engage which include, but are not limited to –

- Begin or further expand screening using the <u>Accountable Health Communities</u>
 (<u>AHC</u>) screening tool. To be eligible for payment, screenings can be sent from your
 EHR using a regional qualified entity or using the regional Social Care Network's IT
 platform;
- 2. **Identify staff to serve as Social Care Navigators** (e.g., identify staff and work with your local SCN who will train them on screening and navigating patients as a part of the SCN program; alternatively, work with SCN Lead Entities to embed their own navigators across your facilities); and
- For providers recognized under the NYS patient-centered medical home (PCMH) program, screen Medicaid members using the AHC Tool or have SCN Lead Entities embed navigators for screenings in their facilities to continue receiving incentive enhancements.

Contact information for each SCN Lead Entity is included further below, and you can reach us directly at <u>SDH@health.ny.gov</u>. We appreciate your partnership in improving the health and well-being of millions of New Yorkers, and we look forward to the collective impact to come.

Sincerely,

Amir Bassiri

Medicaid Director

Office of Health Insurance Programs

Social Care Network (SCN) Contact information:

Region	SCN Lead Entity	Dedicated point of contact for providers
Bronx	SOMOS	lvirgil@somoscommunitycare.org sduluc@somoscommunitycare.org
Manhattan, Queens, Brooklyn	PHS	ntobier@healthsolutions.org
Hudson Valley	HVCC	mweygant@hvcare.net
Long Island	HEALI	landrade@hwcli.com
Capital Region, North Country, Central NY	НА	erica.coletti@healthyalliance.org michele.horan@healthyalliance.org
Staten Island	SIPPS	bpolanco4@statenislandpps.org
Southern Tier	CC	dsculley@carecompassnetwork.org
Finger Lakes	FLIPA	tbarbato@forwardleadingipa.org
Western New York	WNYICC	nkmicinski@wnyicc.org

Additional resources:

Additional information and resources can be found on the <u>SCN: Information for Providers</u> page of the DOH website and at the links below:

- A fact sheet and short video for health care providers overviewing the program
- A program overview and short video for Medicaid members highlighting the program
- Additional FAQs and SCN contact information for Medicaid members