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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Systems Alignment Innovation Hub will Empower Community-Based Organizations to Lead and Inform Efforts to Address Health Disparities

New Systems Alignment Innovation Hub will Help Front Line Organizations Build Capacity to Support Research that Advances Evidence-Based Practices

Boston, MA, 11/1/2022: The Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc. (TAC) is excited to announce its launch of the [Systems Alignment Innovation Hub](#) (SAIH), a nationwide project funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to help social service, public health, and medical providers in low-income and Black, Indigenous, & People of Color (BIPOC) communities dismantle inequities and improve health and well-being for all.

Through SAIH, TAC will work directly with “practice-based organizations” (PBOs) — a broad array of entities that have firsthand knowledge about the opportunities and challenges of coordinating health and social services for populations experiencing health inequities — but that may lack resources to develop and implement strong research designs.

SAIH will help PBOs both prepare their new systems alignment ideas for rigorous, research-based testing, and make use of existing studies to achieve systems alignment in their own settings. These shifts will help position PBOs to receive targeted research funding and expand the evidence base for solutions that align financing and delivery systems across sectors to improve health outcomes and reduce racial and social disparities.

With support from RWJF’s Systems for Action program based within the Colorado School of Public Health, and from our partners at the Human Services Research Institute, SAIH will provide:

- Technical assistance and consultation to organizations with innovative systems alignment ideas
- A peer learning network to assist PBOs in refining their ideas

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- Targeted research funding for selected organizations
- Tools, guides, and resources for dissemination to support these efforts

“The Innovation Hub will help heal the long history of health inequities resulting from structural racism and other forms of oppression by centering the cultural assets, indigenous knowledge, and resiliency of racially marginalized and historically disenfranchised communities,” said LaMont Green, SAIH Co-director and TAC’s Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

TAC Executive Director Kevin Martone stated, “Practice-based organizations are on the front lines of providing services to historically marginalized groups, but often lack the capacity to advance the evidence base of cross-system alignment strategies that yield meaningful outcomes.” He added, “TAC is enthusiastic about supporting RWJF’s vision of a *Culture of Health* and ensuring that historically disenfranchised groups take the lead in building the knowledge base and in directing the solutions.”

Glen Mays, Systems for Action Director, explained: “As a research program, we want to identify the most promising ideas for system alignment so that we can study and test them rigorously. The Innovation Hub’s work will ensure that community-created and community-led ideas make it into the research pipeline, especially ideas from those who experience the realities of structural and systemic inequities.”

About Systems for Action

[Systems for Action \(S4A\)](#) is a signature research program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that builds a *Culture of Health* by rigorously testing new ways of connecting the nation’s fragmented medical, social, and public health systems. The program supports research teams from across the U.S. in conducting scientific studies that evaluate the implementation and impact of novel approaches to systems alignment.

About TAC

The Technical Assistance Collaborative is a Boston-based nonprofit organization dedicated to helping our nation’s human services, health care, homelessness, and affordable housing systems implement policies and practices that empower people to live healthy, independent lives in the communities they choose.

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<https://www.tacinc.org/project/the-systems-alignment-innovation-hub/>

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