

## **CMS Innovation Challenge: Grant to Improve Quality and Cost of HealthCare**

December 1, 2011

TKW wants to share with you an amazing opportunity to apply for a grant award that could substantially benefit you or your customers. Cost and quality of healthcare are complex issues our society faces. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid announced the Health Care Innovation Challenge Grant Program in an effort to lower the cost and improve the quality of care for high risk groups. This program focuses on Medicare, Medicaid, and rural healthcare recipients.

The Program's Cooperative Agreement describes the type of programs that will be targeted for awards. Specifically, awards will go to the most compelling new service, delivery and payment models that show capability to improve care within the first six months of the award, with sustainable net Medicare/Medicaid savings within two to three years. The program goal is to drive innovation that results in better care and better health, lower costs and more efficient operational performance.

**Grant awards are expected to range from \$1 million to \$30 million!**

**Letters of Intent must be filed by December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011.**

Any interested party that has developed innovations designed to drive significant improvements resulting in better health, better health care, and lower costs is encouraged to apply. Organizations expected to apply include provider groups, health systems, payers, faith-based organizations, local governments, public-private partnerships and for profit organizations.

The Innovation Center is making up to \$1 billion in funding available through as many as two funding cycles to new and innovative models of achieving the goals noted above. These awards will range between \$1 million and \$30 million each to cover a three-year period of performance. This period is set to begin in March 2012; therefore, those wishing to apply must do so soon.

Letters of Intent must be filed through an online form by **December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011**. Additional information is available at <http://innovations.cms.gov>. Detailed instructions are also available at this site and should be reviewed to ensure eligibility. The full application is due on **January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012** and is also an online submission at the following website: <http://www.grants.gov>. Awards are expected to be announced By March 30, 2012.

