

Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation

[The Epilepsy Foundation of North Central Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska](#) has been awarded a \$404,171 two year grant from the [Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation](#) in collaboration with [Centegra Healthcare System](#), and [RUSH University Medical Center](#), in Chicago. A significant number of children diagnosed with uncontrolled epilepsy are underserved and diagnosed with co-occurring mental health conditions. A primary aim of this grant is to implement transformational comprehensive care for children with uncontrolled epilepsy and closely-associated mental health challenges living in McHenry County, Illinois. The grant provides an ability for the RUSH Epilepsy Center, and Dr. Marvin A. Rossi MD, PhD to develop and implement a game-changing technology-rich and patient-centered healthcare delivery model for chronic epilepsy care in Northeastern Illinois. The Epilepsy Foundation has established an independent community-based coordination hub in Crystal Lake, Illinois funded by the Mental Health Board of McHenry County. This office is designed to facilitate access to mental health-related community resources, telemedicine-linked epilepsy expertise at RUSH University Medical Center, and 'on-demand' animation-rich educational videos for children and their caregivers. The Family Health Partnership Clinic in Crystal Lake and related McHenry community agencies are included in this study. Such a community-based healthcare management system is necessary to accommodate increased numbers of children now accessing healthcare by way of the Affordable Care Act. As importantly, this study aims to provide clarity regarding how to reduce hospital admissions for these children. The Centegra Healthcare System Emergency Services Network was chosen as the collaborating study site. This study will set the stage for replicating such a model throughout Illinois. The study is expected to continue through 2016.