

FHCQ | Social Needs and Health Equity Steering Committee

Social Needs Interventions Workgroup

June 14th, 2022 | 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Virtual

MEMBERS PRESENT

Abigail Berube, MPH, Washington State
Hospital Association

Beth Weitensteiner, DO, International
Community Health Services

Kate McLean, MD, MPH Quilted Health

Laurel Lee, MSPH, Molina Healthcare

Marc Provence, MPH, Retired, University of
Washington

Phyllis Cavens, MD, Child and Adolescent Clinic
of Longview and Vancouver

STAFF AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Nick Locke, MPH, Bree Collaborative

WELCOME

Nick Locke, Bree Collaborative, welcomed the group to the first meeting of the Social Needs Interventions workgroup, an ad-hoc workgroup of the Social Needs and Health Equity Steering Committee. Members introduced themselves and their current work with addressing social needs in a healthcare setting.

DISCUSS: WORKGROUP PRIORITIES AND DELIVERABLES

Mr. Locke shared the priorities for social needs screening that had been identified by the steering committee. Workgroup members were invited to provide comments and suggest additional priority areas.

- Workgroup members affirmed existing goals related to community information exchanges, simplified workflows for care coordination, and partnerships between health, social sector, and community-based organizations.
- Members also suggested a goal to expand the capacity of social service organizations, and how to consider funding mechanisms for social needs interventions.
 - Other new areas discussed included understanding the capacity of social needs organizations to develop low-barrier workflows for patients.
 - Workgroup members also discussed community information exchanges and the best way to provide resources. Ideas included tangible resource lists, endorsing a state-wide Community Information Exchange (CIE), and addressing the gaps inherent in social needs interventions.

Based on the conversation on community information exchanges, Mr. Locke led the workgroup in a conversation on potential deliverables.

- One potential deliverable is to develop a report on the current landscape of social need interventions within WA state, including the potential resources by region.
 - The report could include current resources/CIEs operating in the various region
 - The report could also distinguish between different intervention models, including CIEs, care coordination hubs, and on-site case management
- Another potential deliverable is a best practice guideline on the elements of a successful social needs intervention program in a healthcare setting.

- This would include the tech-needs, human resources (social workers and providers), and mechanisms for exchanging information with social service organizations.
- Goal is to inform existing organizations on the best way to follow-up on social needs in a way that is easy for patients to understand.

DISCUSSION: ADDITIONAL OUTREACH AND RESOURCES

Based on the discussion for priorities and deliverables, Mr. Locke asked workgroup members who else should be invited to the table. Further outreach will be conducted to:

- WA DOH to understand their care coordination hub programs
- The HCA to understand their goals for researching a state-wide CIE
- Community Based Organizations to understand their goals and successes working with healthcare organizations (include HopeLink and CoastalCap)
- ACHs for their work with CIEs (including Healthier Here and SWACH)

Workgroup members discussed other potential next steps. This includes determining social need priorities (such as housing, transportation, and food). Additionally, Mr. Locke will begin to draft a list of questions to ask CBOs and healthcare organizations as this group begins to develop a report on the current state of social needs interventions.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Locke invited final comments, then thanked everyone for attending. The workgroup will plan on meeting every third Tuesday, with the next meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 19th from 3:00 – 4:00 PM.