
FHCQ | Social Needs and Health Equity Steering Committee

Social Needs Interventions Workgroup

August 16th, 2022 | 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Virtual

MEMBERS PRESENT

Abigail Berube, MPH, Washington State
Hospital Association

Ashley Bennet, Washington Health Care
Authority

Beth Weitensteiner, DO, International
Community Health Services

Janice Tufte, Patient Advocate

Karma Kreizenbeck, HICOR Fred Hutch

Laurel Lee, MSPH, Molina Healthcare

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

Sami Bailey, Community Health Plan of
Washington

STAFF AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Nick Locke, MPH, Bree Collaborative

Cathie Ott, Health Care Authority

Michael Arnis, Health Care Authority

Karin Jansen, Health Care Authority

WELCOME

Nick Locke, Bree Collaborative, welcomed the group to 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.

As several new members were present, the group did not vote to approve minutes.

PRESENTATION: HCA Community Information Exchange Planning

Mr. Locke introduced Cathie Ott, Washington Health Care Authority, to present on the Health Care Authority's (HCA) Community Information Exchange (CIE) planning project. Ms. Ott described the HCA project up to this point:

- The HCA received legislative funding to investigate the potential for a statewide CIE
- The planning phase of this project is moving rapidly. The HCA hopes to finish conducting their landscape review by the end of 2022.
- A big part of the project is stakeholder consultation ranging from providers to plans to ACHs
- Currently the planning phase is wrapping up. Future stages include developing strategic options and developing funding support for a potential solution.
- This project overlaps with the HCA's Medicaid Transformation Project renewal (MTP)

Ms. Ott invited questions from workgroup members. Members discussed:

- Is the CIE project Medicaid specific? While the HCA is targeting the Medicaid population through their MTP renewal, but they hope the CIE project would have a statewide impact.
- Is the HCA talking to community health centers or delivery systems? The HCA did connect to the Washington Association for Community Health, the Washington State Medical Association, and others. Many of these organizations chose to fill out the landscape survey and spread it among their members.

- Did the HCA consider state-wide disparities in social service availability? The HCA is aware that there are disparities in available resources and currently engaged CBOs. They hope to engage more CBOs through the slow-moving process. Additionally, the HCA hopes to secure future CIE funding by 2023.
- Will CBOs be directly funded? This project will not directly fund CBOs, but the HCA hopes to develop “community-based hubs” through the MTP renewal project that will provide funding for more community health workers.

DISCUSSION: WORKGROUP DELIVERABLES AND NEXT STEPS

Once the HCA presentation ended, Mr. Locke asked the workgroup what deliverables would avoid duplicating efforts while still making a difference in Washington state. Workgroup members suggested:

- A community information exchange is more of a broad technology, but additional best practices will be needed to inform how clinics or community-based organizations interface with a CIE
 - How is a CIE represented in a clinic’s EHR?
 - How is
- We also need to build evidence for new interventions and test in community – peer-support programs, clinical navigator programs, community health worker programs, etc.
- A one-pager of best practices for screening and interventions would be very useful for organizations.
- Identifying resources by region would still be useful.
- Funding sustainability for social service organizations.

Workgroup members discussed potential next steps. Mr. Locke summed up next steps as three specific steps:

- First step: defining current available interventions and availability by region
- Second step: recommendations for bringing interventions to clinical sites, and how these interventions would interface with a statewide CIE
- Final step: recommendations for funding sustainability.

Workgroup members briefly looked at the draft taxonomy for social need interventions. Workgroup members will brainstorm other program examples and types before the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Locke invited final comments, then thanked everyone for attending. The workgroup’s next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 20th from 3:00 – 4:00 PM.