



State Innovation Model (SIM)

October 31, 2014

Task Force Meetings

Creation of the [Data Analytics Subgroup](#) has been finalized with the announcement of fourteen members. Dr. Rahul Koranne, VP and Medical Director of HealthEast Post-Acute & Community Services, was named as the Chair of the sub-group. The sub-group, facilitated by the Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS), will have meetings in November, December and February. The first meeting will be held on Monday, November 17th from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Department of Human Services Central Office, 444 Lafayette Rd N., Saint Paul, MN 55101.

The Task Forces are scheduled to meet on Wednesday, November 19th. The [Community Advisory Task Force](#) will convene from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Hiway Federal Credit Union, 840 Westminster Street, St. Paul, MN. The [Multi-Payer Alignment Task Force](#) will convene from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Department of Human Services, Elmer L. Andersen Human Services Building, 540 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN. The agenda for both groups will contain an update on data analytics, an e-health advisory committee presentation, and an overview of the state specific evaluation efforts.

Privacy, Security and Consent Management for Electronic Health Information Exchange Grant Program

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) requests proposals for the Privacy, Security and Consent Management for Electronic Health Information Exchange grant program. The goal of the Privacy, Security and Consent Management for Electronic Health Information Exchange grant program is to support health care professionals, hospitals and health-related settings in using e-health to improve health, increase patient satisfaction, reduce health care costs, and improve access to the information necessary for individuals and communities to make the best possible health decisions. This funding will further support readiness to advance the Minnesota Accountable Health Model and Accountable Communities for Health.

Up to \$500,000 will be available for up to two 18-month grants for two distinct parts:

- Part A: Review of e-Health Legal Issues, Analysis and Identification of Leading Practice (up to \$200,000 for 18 month grant period)
- Part B: e-Health Privacy, Security and Consent Management Technical Assistance and Education (up to \$300,000 for 18 month grant period)

Required, non-binding Letters of Intent to Respond are due on Monday, November 3, 2014, by 4:00 p.m. Central Time.

Proposals are due December 5, 2014, by 4:00 p.m. Central Time.

Request for Proposal for Minnesota Emerging Professions Toolkit Program

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) requests proposals for the Minnesota Emerging Professions Toolkit Program with the goal of developing resources to integrate the following three emerging health professions into the workforce: community health workers, community paramedics and dental therapists/advanced dental therapists. The target audience of the toolkits will be potential employers of emerging professions, including a wide variety of organizations within the health care, dental, public health, long-term care, social services and

behavioral health system. The purpose of the toolkits will be to inform potential employers how to plan for hiring emerging profession practitioners, how to successfully integrate them into care delivery or care coordination models, and what potential benefits arise from hiring an emerging professional – benefits to the organization, to other members of a care-delivery team, and to the patients and clients served by the emerging profession practitioner.

Three contracts are available for up to \$100,000 each for the development of a toolkit for one of three emerging professions: community health workers, community paramedics, and dental therapists/advanced dental therapists. Eligible applicants include any individual or organization that has significant knowledge and experience with one of the three above mentioned emerging professions and has the capacity to develop a toolkit for that profession. Respondents may apply for more than one contract, but each application must be submitted separately. The contract term is 12 months from execution of the contract. Work is proposed to start in April of 2015.

Proposals are due no later than 4:00 p.m. CST, Friday, December 5, 2014.

An RFP informational call will be held Tuesday, November 4, 2014 from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. CST, call in number: 1-888-742-5095, passcode: 6353794742.

All written questions are due to MDH: November 12, 2014. Questions and answers to all questions will be posted on the Emerging Professions website: November 17, 2014.

Request for Proposal for Practice Transformation Grant Program

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) requests proposals for the Minnesota Accountable Health Model Practice Transformation grant program. Many providers, including small, independent, rural, and safety net providers face financial barriers to implementation of practice transformation. These grants will support models that integrate primary care, behavioral health, social services, training, and coordination through practice facilitation. This grant opportunity will support a range of providers and teams in primary care, social services, or behavioral health to allow team members to participate in practice transformation activities such as:

- redesign of clinical systems work
- development of new data collection or management tools
- implementation of new work flows
- expansion of quality improvement systems
- applicable provider training

\$200,000 is available for implementation of up to 20 grants from \$10,000 - \$20,000 per grantee for six months.

Eligible applicants include:

- Primary care providers including health care homes, rural health providers, federally qualified health centers, or a group of primary care providers seeking to integrate care.
- Social service providers working with primary care and behavioral health to implement integrated services; including a community mental health center.
- Behavioral health providers working with primary care providers to implement integrated services such as behavioral health homes.
- Tribal primary care and behavioral health providers.
- Applications are due December 4, 2014 at 4:00 pm. CST

An optional informational [webinar](#) will be held on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm CST.

Please submit questions on the [Practice Transformation Grant program page](#). All submitted questions will receive a response. A comprehensive Q & A document of all submissions is updated regularly.

Minnesota continues to test how emerging professionals impact health care teams

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) awarded another round of \$30,000 grants to four organizations to test the potential of emerging professionals to strengthen health care teams and improve access to care. This is the second round, of three rounds of grant funding, awarded for the Emerging Professions Integration Grant Program. In June of this year, the first round of grants were awarded to five organizations. A third round of grants is expected to be awarded in the summer of 2015. These awards were made possible through Minnesota's \$45 million State Innovation Model (SIM) testing grant. MDH and the Department of Human Services (DHS) jointly received this federal grant in 2013 and are using the funds to help implement the Minnesota Accountable Health

Model. The model helps providers and communities work together to reduce costs and create healthier futures for Minnesotans. It supports community and provider partnerships, team-based models of care, care coordination, Accountable Care Organizations, payment reform, and health information technology investments.

The model also seeks to improve care by supporting a team approach. In this context, SIM Minnesota wants to test the effectiveness of community health workers, community paramedics, and dental therapist/advanced dental **therapists in helping organizations achieve Minnesota's goals related to health system transformation.** The initiative chose to focus on these providers in part because they have the potential to increase access for low income and underserved populations and to help fill current gaps in primary health care and dental care.

As part of the SIM grant, MDH and DHS will evaluate how integrating emerging professions into a team **environment changes the team's overall capacity and the patient's outcomes.** For example, does bringing on a dental therapist to the dental team free up time for the dentist to work on more complicated dental issues (e.g. root canals) or does a community paramedic help to prevent hospital readmissions with the hospital discharge follow-up services they provide.

The following organizations were awarded 12 months of start-up funding for round two. Each organization is also contributing funds toward the emerging professional they plan to hire (indicated below).

- Essentia Health, Ada, Community Paramedic
- Hennepin County, Minneapolis, Community Health Worker
- Northern Dental Access Center, Bemidji, Dental Therapist
- Ringdahl Ambulances Inc., Fergus Falls, Community Paramedic

Federal funds of \$120,000 accounted for about 47 percent of this \$254,280 project. Non-governmental sources accounted for 53 percent of the project.

Community Health Worker (CHW) Events

Success with CHW's is hosting several events this fall that are geared to many different health disciplines and organizations including providers, home visiting programs and others interested in effective health equity strategies. We would like to draw your attention to the webinar on Wednesday, December 3 entitled, Community Health Worker Enrollment, Coverage and Payment under Minnesota Health Care Programs.

[Webinar: Community Health Worker Enrollment, Coverage and Payment under Minnesota Health Care Programs](#)

Wednesday, Dec. 3, 10:00-11:00 a.m. CST

This free webinar will provide an informative overview of Community Health Worker (CHW) coverage and rates under Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP). The session will include step-by-step guidance on the CHW enrollment process and billing procedures. Requirements related to CHW supervision and documentation of CHW services will also be addressed. Q & A will be part of the session.

The webinar will be led by Alex Kaiser, Provider Trainer with the Member/Provider Relations unit at the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

Minnesota is one of only two states with Medicaid payment for CHW services. Whether you are new to the CHW role or an experienced CHW employer, this webinar will help you better understand this funding stream for CHW services available to Medicaid-eligible providers.

This Alliance program is offered with support from The St. Paul Foundation and MN Community Measurement. Space is limited so please register today.

[Research & Results: CHW Strategies & Asthma Care: A Webinar for Providers and Home Visiting Programs](#)

Thursday, Nov. 6, 11 a.m.-12:00 noon CST

Community Health Workers (CHWs) can serve an important role in improving outcomes for asthma patients. This free, one-hour webinar will feature presentations by two national experts on the CHW workforce with a focus on research, evidence and program results associated with introducing trained, trusted and culturally-competent CHWs to the asthma team.

The webinar is designed for primary care providers including pediatric clinics, family practice offices, community health centers, and school-based clinics; asthma specialists; home visiting programs and healthy homes initiatives; and those interested in addressing asthma disparities.

Webinar faculty include Dr. James Krieger and Erica Marshall, MPH. Dr. Krieger, MD, MPH, is chief of the Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Section at Public Health - Seattle & King County and Clinical Professor of Medicine and Health Services at the University of Washington. His asthma-related work focuses on reducing asthma health

inequities through environmental and systems change interventions. Ms. Marshall is the Massachusetts **Department of Public Health's Asthma Prevention and Control Director.**

This Alliance program is offered with support from The St. Paul Foundation and MN Community Measurement. Space is limited so please register today.

[Learning Session for Asthma Care Providers and Home Visiting Programs on Integrating CHW Services into Pediatric Asthma Care](#)

Friday, Nov. 21, 8:00-11:00 a.m. CST

Wilder Center, St. Paul

This free workshop will feature Megan Sandel, MD, MPH, and Anne Walton, RN, AE-C from Boston Medical Center who will discuss the implementation and value of team-based CHW strategies to improve asthma outcomes based on their nationally-recognized Reducing Ethnic/Racial Asthma Disparities in Youth (READY) program and related work underway in New England and around the US.

Clinic representatives who attend will be eligible to apply for a planning mini-grant to help introduce CHW approaches within their organizations utilizing an online tool kit available in 2015.

This event is co-sponsored by the Centers for Public Health Education and Outreach at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. CEU certificates will be offered for attendance. Participants may earn up to 3.0 contact hours or 180 minutes or 0.3 CEUs, and are responsible for determining if this program meets the criteria for licensure or recertification for their discipline.

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[The Community Health Worker Role and Mental Health: Current Practice and Future Opportunities A Learning Session for Mental Health and Primary Care Providers](#)

Thursday, Dec. 4, 8:30-11:30 a.m. CST

Wellstone Center/Neighborhood House, St. Paul

As the pace of transformation of our health system accelerates with expectations for improved outcomes and patient experience as well as lower costs, providers are moving toward the integration of physical and mental health services. This development has important workforce implications for ensuring that teams are structured in ways to most effectively address patient and community needs and advance health equity. This learning session will focus on the role, value and outlook for the community health worker (CHW) profession in mental health as members of teams committed to culturally-competent outreach and services.

Keynote presenter, Joan King, RN, MSN, CS, National Council of Behavioral Health (NCBH), will explore the development of models across the country that integrate CHW services. These emerging models will form the basis for a conversation about future opportunities and next steps for CHW integration. Our discussion is timely, **with the 2015 implementation of Minnesota's Accountable Communities for Health program and Behavioral Health Home initiative.**

Following the keynote and Q & A session, our program will feature a panel of health and mental health providers in Minnesota who will discuss their plans, experience and results in integrating culturally-competent CHW strategies to improve mental health services and recovery.

Joan Kenerson King RN, MSN, CS is a senior integration consultant at the National Council. She provides training to direct care and frontline staff including CHWs. She is also actively involved in state-level consultation on health home implementation and works with provider organizations as they transform to integrated systems of care.

Representing over 2,000 member organizations, NCBH advocates for policies that ensure people who have mental health and substance use problems can access comprehensive healthcare services and also houses the SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrative Solutions which provides technical assistance on integrating primary and behavioral healthcare.

This workshop is intended for professionals from multiple disciplines who work in the areas of mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment in a variety of settings including mental health, primary care and community-based organizations; disparities, diversity and equity; health policy; and health care design and delivery.

Clinic representatives who attend will be eligible to apply for a planning mini-grant to help introduce CHW approaches within their organizations utilizing an online tool kit available in 2015.

This event is co-sponsored by the Centers for Public Health Education and Outreach at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. CEU certificates will be offered for attendance. Participants may earn up to 3.0 contact hours or 180 minutes or 0.3 CEUs, and are responsible for determining if this program meets the criteria for licensure or recertification for their discipline.

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