Hospital Transformation Program Newsletter

COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

Hello HTP Stakeholders,

Welcome to the June 2023 edition of the Hospital Transformation Program (HTP) newsletter. LET'S GO NUGGETS! World Champions! Just a coincidence that we held the first HTP Learning Symposium and the Nuggets win their first championship? Well, yes, but still really cool! Speaking of the HTP Learning Symposium, it was held on June 8 and 9 and was a truly special two days. We are so grateful to all of the presenters who provided such rich content, and to all of our attendees for their enthusiasm and engagement. We've included a few photographic highlights below.

We have a lot of great information, news, resources, and trainings, in this month's newsletter. Happy summer folks! Thank you for reading.

Matt Haynes
Special Finance Projects Manager

HTP Learning Symposium Mini Photo Recap

HTP Timeline

HTP Workgroups

The HTP Hospital Workgroup will occur tomorrow, June 15 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The agenda will include Learning Symposium recap, FAQ Updates, Performance Measure updates, PY2Q2 Quarterly Reporting updates, reminders, timeline and scoring review and reconsideration period. This will be a great HTP workgroup that covers all the great things happening in the HTP, we are excited to see you there!

Addressing Social Needs (ASN) Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCOM) Specifications Document for Public Comment

This fall, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will be piloting a hospital-level performance scoring methodology for addressing social needs.

CMS has contracted with Yale New Haven Health Services Corporation (YNHHSC) CORE to develop measures to assess the quality of care provided to hospitalized Medicare beneficiaries. As part of this contract, CORE is developing a hospital-level eCQM to measure how hospitals are addressing the social needs of their patients.

The purpose of the request for public comment is for the Yale Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation (CORE) to gain feedback from a broad range of stakeholders (including technical experts, providers, patients, purchasers, and the public at large) on the development of an electronic clinical quality measure (eCQM) designed to measure screening of patients for social needs within four domains, food insecurity, housing insecurity, utility insecurity, and transportation insecurity, as well as if an intervention activity is performed.

This measure, Addressing Social Needs (ASN) eCQM, aims to build upon existing measurements by making enhancements in the following:

1. Enhancing the accuracy of measurement by refining social need domain definitions and requiring technical standards for endorsed screening tools;
2. Promoting efficiency and alignment across the ecosystem through use of all-payer eCQMs ;
3. Aligning with national health information technology interoperability standards (USCDI); and
4. Encouraging follow-up when screening is positive.

To be considered, comments must be received by 11:59 PM EST on July 2, 2023, at cmsaddressingsocialneeds@yale.edu

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CO-CARES

Last month, CDPHE officially launched the Colorado Alliance for Resilient and Equitable Systems (CO-CARES) program aimed at providing support for health care workers across the state. The initiative is a direct result of Senate Bill 22-226: Programs to Support Health Care Workforce.

The Colorado Hospital Association, which led a coalition of health care organizations in supporting the bill, is serving as the hospital outreach partner for the program and collaborating with CDPHE and University of Colorado to connect health care workers with resources to support workforce wellness, pandemic recovery, individual and organizational resilience, and more. Learn more about the program on the CO-CARES website or reach out to cha.communications@cha.com for more information.

Rural Provider Access and Affordability Stimulus Grant Program (SB 22-200)

- The nine-member Rural Provider Access and Affordability Advisory Committee began meeting Sept. 7 and met every two weeks through November 2022.
- With the advisory committee's recommendations, **HCPF presented rules to the Medical Services Board in December 2022** and presented again in January 2023 for the final hearing.
- Grant applications are now open. Award determinations will be made and grant agreements executed by June 2023.
- Information about the grant and advisory committee is available on our website.

New Tool Assists Blind and Low-Vision Coloradans in Navigating State Locations & Online Services

Every Coloradan deserves equal access to essential state services. Which is why the State of Colorado is thrilled to offer a new service for blind and low-vision Coloradans called Aira. Lt. Governor Diane Primavera announced the launch of Aira last week and shared details about the technology and its benefits via this video.

Through OIT's partnership with Aira, an app that provides live, on-demand visual interpreting through human-to-human assistance, Coloradans will get free access for up to 30 minutes per session while navigating state locations, websites and applications.

Please share this far and wide as we work to reduce barriers to services and create a more equitable Colorado!

Colorado Broadband Mapping Hub is Here!

The Colorado Broadband Office (CBO) has launched a new Broadband Mapping Hub that is an easy-to-use, complete resource for providers, cities, schools and communities to assist in broadband planning, finding partnerships and applying for broadband funding. The hub is also the place where Coloradans can access a wealth of broadband-related resources. Here are just a few of the things you can find:

- **A new broadband coverage map.** Now with more information, like households served or internet speeds, the new map is searchable by your area of interest (county, municipality, school district, legislative district or region). Residents can enter their address to find available broadband service, information about grants in the area and typical speeds from nearby speed tests.
- **A high-level look at broadband in Colorado.** View the hub dashboard for a quick look at the state's internet speeds, households served, grant awards and proposed broadband projects.
- **Broadband projects funded by the state.** The Grant Awards Dashboard provides an overview of CBO grants, awards and the progress made in awarded projects. It allows users to filter by funding program, project status and area of interest.
- **Everything needed to apply for funding.** Applicants can view program eligibility guidelines and find resources to prepare applications through the Grant Discovery Portal. It includes state and federal broadband grant layers, broadband coverage data and demographic data.
- **Downloadable data sources.** The hub includes links to authoritative data sources used in Colorado's maps, including CBO data, FCC data, U.S. Census and demography data, and other mapping resources.
- **A survey to share your internet experience.** The CBO Broadband Survey & Speed Test allows Coloradans to test their home or business internet speed and share valuable information directly with the CBO.

Share this resource with your friends and neighbors to help create better awareness as the state works to bring broadband to more than 99% of Coloradans by 2027.

Growing the Health Care Workforce

Help build the health & child care workforce by spreading the word to your patients, community, and staff about these once-in-a-lifetime educational opportunities!

Please help us grow the health care workforce as well as the child care workforce. Please print and display these time-limited training opportunity communications in your patient waiting rooms, exam rooms, staff break rooms and other related areas. The links include a poster that can be printed and a digital display that can go on TV screens in patient or staff areas. Print and digital resources are online.

The first poster communicates free, short-term training for in-demand health care professions (i.e. CNA, EMT, MA, pharm tech, etc). The second poster also communicates

free early childhood education courses to become a certified child care professional. Both of these free education opportunities are essential to revitalizing the health care workforce, while offering upward mobility for low-income Coloradans seeking new career paths. If these communications get to the right people - specifically Medicaid members - they can be life-changing, giving people a once-in-a-life-time opportunity for free certifications that create a meaningfully different income trajectory, while helping grow the workforce.

Please help fully leverage these unique educational and career advancement opportunities by displaying these important communications today!

Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment

This is a training for health and mental health care providers through Peer Assistance Services. This training provides interactive training for health and mental health professionals on the evidence-based approach of Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). Screening assists providers in identifying and intervening with patients at risk for health problems due to alcohol and other drug use.

Learning Objectives:
• Summarize the relationship between substance use and health
• Describe SBIRT as an evidence-based public health approach for screening patients for alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use
• Demonstrate how to incorporate SBIRT into practice

Contact SBIRTinfo@peerassistanceservices.org to schedule a training for your organization.

Health Equity in Hospital Reporting: Where Do We Go From Here?

On June 27, join this information session titled Why Health Equity, Why Now: SDOH, REAL Data and CLAS. This session will focus on the reflection of Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) have on their priority to advance health equity.
Please Register Here

As your trusted leader in quality improvement, the Telligen QIO and HQIC teams are hosting a learning series, Health Equity in Hospital Reporting: Where Do We Go from Here? Join our three informational sessions, accompanied by two implement-focused working sessions that include hands on TA, coaching and sharing. We have our very own expert discussing an effective approach to engage the community and building coalitions. Sessions will be recorded for future on-demand learning opportunities.

Objectives of this event include:
· Discussing the impact of social drivers on health outcomes
· Reviewing how to use REAL data to advance health equity
· Understanding the new CMS IQR Health Equity Requirements for hospitals
· Identifying strategies to build & establish community partnerships

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Target, Assess, Prevent Learning Collaborative

Starting June 22! Target, Assess, Prevent: Strategy for Reducing Hospital Acquired Infections Learning Collaborative featuring subject matter experts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and focused on reducing CAUTI, CLABSI, and CDI infections.

Join monthly for an hour, starting June 22.

Telligen Learning Assets and Support

Telligen QI Connect™ provides no-cost support throughout CO. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) funds and calls upon both the Telligen Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO) and Hospital Quality Improvement Contractor (HQIC) teams to help with many of the same challenges you are tackling head on through your HTP and HQIP work locally. You are invited by Telligen QI Connect™ to:

- Join any of the QIN-QIO and/or HQIC events on the events calendar.
- Receive push notifications of QIN-QIO events and resources by joining the (no cost, no obligation) QIN-QIO network.
- Think of Telligen QI Connect™ as no-cost workforce extenders. Do you have vacant positions, gaps in internal resources, employee orientation or education needs for specific topic areas, or a wish/to do list of important tasks that you haven't been able to get to? Ask us if we can help!
- Request enhanced technical assistance by submitting a request here.
- Contact Meredith Koob, mkoob@telligen.com with any questions.

Community Engagement Resource

The Assessing Community Engagement project from the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) Leadership Consortium: Collaboration for a Value & Science-Driven Health System is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Guided by a committee of national and community leaders who reflect diverse backgrounds and perspectives, the project aims to provide community-engaged, effective, and evidence-based tools to those who want to measure engagement to ensure that it is meaningful and impactful, with a special emphasis on ensuring equity as a critical input and outcome. As part of this effort, the Organizing Committee developed the Assessing Community Engagement Conceptual Model (ACE-CoM), which identifies outcomes associated with meaningful community engagement. More information is on their website.

Thanks to the Community Advisory Council (CAC) for sharing this resource.

Fentanyl Accountability and Prevention Act (HB22-1326)

House Bill 1326 officially dubbed the Fentanyl Accountability and Prevention Act, will go into effect July 1, 2023. There is a lot that the bill implements. One area of note for HTP hospitals who are implementing interventions to initiate Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) in the emergency department, is that the bill requires community correctional facilities to begin providing MAT – considered the gold-standard way to treat opioid-use disorders. If they can't offer MAT, the programs must help inmates assess MAT providers in the community.

Colorado AIM Substance Use Disorder Learning Collaborative

Colorado AIM: Substance Use Disorder Learning Collaborative (CO AIM: SUD) is a cohort of hospital labor and delivery units (L&Ds) receiving technical assistance and peer-learning opportunities to improve the quality of patient care for pregnant and postpartum people in Colorado experiencing substance use, depression, or anxiety. This can boost your team's performance if you've chosen measures on HTP related to screening and referral for perinatal depression and anxiety, social needs screening and notification, or discharge planning with RAE notification for mental illness or substance use disorder.

In 2023, CO AIM: SUD has some exciting new offerings!

The opportunity to sign up for a new program through IMPACT BH to receive one-on-one, hands-on support from a team of experts on initiating medication for opioid use disorder

(MOUD) and dispensing take-home naloxone on inpatient L&D. Each L&D will receive $2,000 for staff appreciation for participating! This new offering is funded by the Behavioral Health Administration; hospitals can partake even if they do not participate in CO AIM: SUD.

A new CPCQC QI Awards Program offers any participating CO AIM: SUD team the ability to earn up to $400 for staff appreciation funds per quarter, per L&D, for active participation in the project! Hospitals will also be eligible to earn year-end awards.

[Supporting Vaginal Delivery for Low-Risk Mothers (SOAR)](#) is an initiative to reduce unnecessary cesarean delivery for low-risk, first-time mothers. CPCQC works with hospital L&D units to provide technical assistance in implementing recommendations on NTSV Cesarean reduction from ACOG and the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM). This initiative can help you meet your primary Cesarean goals for CMS or the HQIP Cesarean section measure.

SOAR has exciting new opportunities this year for hospital teams!

A new CPCQC QI Awards program offers any SOAR team the ability to earn up to $200 for staff appreciation funds per quarter, per L&D, for quarterly data submissions. Hospitals will also be eligible to earn year-end awards.

To learn more, email info@cpcqc.org.

Public Dashboard

The Collaboration, Performance and Analytics System (CPAS) hospitals will be using for HTP has a public dashboard that stakeholders can access to view each participating hospital's measures and interventions. The information is sortable and can be exported into Microsoft Excel. This is a nice tool for exploring all the interventions that the hospitals will be implementing and the measures that the interventions are focused on. Go to the new [dashboard](#).

Community Advisory Council

The Community Advisory Council is currently looking to recruit new members!

Community Advisory Council meetings continue to take place monthly to provide important perspectives to the HTP as well as community awareness of and engagement with the program. The next meeting is Aug. 7, 2023. Agendas, materials, and notes from previous meetings are on the [Community Advisory Council website](#).

Colorado Healthcare Affordability and Sustainability Enterprise (CHASE) Board meeting

The next Colorado Healthcare Affordability and Sustainability Enterprise (CHASE) Board meeting will take place [via Zoom](#) on **Tuesday, June 27, at 3 p.m.**

Additional information about the board, as well as meeting materials, are on the [CHASE Board website](#).

Helpful Links & Program Contact

[HTP Communications archive](#)   [Community Advisory Council website](#)   [CHASE Board website](#)   [HTP website](#)

Email HTP Program Contact

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