Community-level Solutions to Address Systemic Racism

NIHCM FOUNDATIONS’ WEBINAR
SYSTEMIC RACISM & HEALTH: SOLUTIONS, MAKING CHANGE HAPPEN

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504 HEALTHNET
504HealthNet, a community-based nonprofit organization

The 504HealthNet mission is to improve access to care to all regardless of their ability to pay and to provide support to an integrated and coordinated network of health care providers in the GNO Region (Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard, and Plaquemines Parishes) that are working together to achieve common goals.

504HealthNet is a nonprofit comprised of 27 health organizations & government agencies, who operate over 75 clinics in the Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, and St. Charles Parishes.

These clinics are dedicated to serving patients no matter their income, insurance status or social status.
Federally Qualified Health Centers
- 13 Community Health Centers

504HealthNet Members – Community Health Centers and Governmental Agencies

- Access Health Louisiana
- Anna's Place NOLA
- Baptist Community Health Services Inc.
- Common Ground Health Clinic
- Covenant House New Orleans
- Crescent Care
- Daughters of Charity Services of New Orleans
- EXCELth, Inc.
- FIT Clinic
- Health Care for the Homeless
- Jefferson Community Health Care Centers
- LOH
- LCMC Health
- LSU Health Care Network
- Luke's House
- Mary Queen of Vietnam Community Development Corp.
- Mercy Family Center
- Metropolitan Human Services District
- New Orleans Health Department
- New Orleans East
- New Orleans Musicians Assistance Foundation
- Odyssey House
- Priority Health
- START Corp.
- St. Thomas Community Health Center
- Tech Action
- Tulane Community Health Centers
- UMC
Community Health Centers - Vital Health Care Safety-Net

- Born from the 1960’s War on Poverty, Social Justice Movement
- Neighborhood-based, local health care
- Community-driven via board participation
- Comprehensive services beyond primary care
- Culturally competent health care providers dedicated to the community
WHO WE SERVE IN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS: PATIENT DATA

~190,000 patients

Uninsured: 9%
Medicaid/CHIP: 19%
Medicare: 58%
Thirdparty: 14%

Hispanic/Latino Ethnicity: 12%
Black/African American: 59%
Asian: 2%
American Indian/Alaska Native: 2%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander: 1%
White: 25%
More than one race: 1%

FQHCs 2018 UDS
COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Connect. Learn. Advocate

- **Connect**: Increase access to comprehensive primary care and behavioral health services to all people irrespective of the ability to pay.
- **Learn**: Develop linkages for a full continuum of health services.
- **Advocate**: Provide advocacy for the needs of community-based primary care and behavioral health providers serving underserved populations.

504 HEALTHNET

Connect. Learn. Advocate.

Infrastructure, Administration, Membership
Collective Impact: Health Equity: Healthy Systems Change

CONNECT
- Community Listening Sessions
- Consumer Advisory Council
- Community Engagement Plan
- Healthy Hospitality Initiative
- Reentry Health Initiative

LEARN
- 504HealthLearn
  - Online portal
  - Trainings
- Community of Practice
- Provider Advisory Council
- Workforce Development/Academic Partnerships

ADVOCATE
- Health Policy Agenda
- Access to Care Coalition
- Public Awareness Campaigns
- Leadership Opportunities
NEW ORLEANS HEALTHY HOSPITALITY INITIATIVE
Connecting Hospitality Workers to Health Care

- Overlap of community health centers’ patient population
- Rooted in Social Justice and Health Equity
- Alignment of Workforce Development and Social Determinants of Health
- Next steps: Policy & Advocacy to increase access to health insurance, paid sick leave, and economic equity

Health is Wealth
REENTRY HEALTH INITIATIVE
Connecting formerly incarcerated residents to Health Care

Reentry Health Initiative - in pilot phase

**Aim**: To help local community health centers (CHCs) expand their capacity to provide socially-tailored, trauma-informed health care services to residents in reentry through provision of cultural sensitive trainings, peer sharing presentations, and technical assistance as subject matter experts to CHCs in the GNO region.
• Acquiring PPE and emergency resources for the safety-net’s front-line staff within neighborhoods
• Communication channels for clear factual information for our patients, providers and community members
• Linking the needs of patients and most vulnerable community members to resources
• Advocating for the coordination of staffing/human resources across the system
• Advocating for a long-term strategy for next emergency

Are OUR systems set up for OUR failure?
Community-level Solutions
To address systemic racism
Systemic racism in Louisiana & multiple epidemics

How are OUR systems set up for OUR failure?

- Residue of slavery and jim crow
- Politics ... from our systems of power
- Poverty...from our economic system
- Low education... from our educational system
- Natural Disasters ... from our environmental protection system
- Unhealthiest ... from our health care system
COMMUNITY-LEVEL SOLUTIONS...for the health care system

AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Serve as community-clinical linkage, supported by navigators/community health workers
  - The community needs to see US!
- Host community listening sessions to inform program planning
- Provide Community engagement training for health care system
- Support consumer advocacy infrastructure
- Connect to other community non-profit service providers for coordination of care and linkage to care
COMMUNITY-LEVEL SOLUTIONS...for the health care system
CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE SAFETY-NET

- Quality improvement initiatives
  - Provide ongoing trainings and technical assistance
  - Create feedback loops for the health care system to incorporate info from Community listening and Consumer advocacy
  - Mini-grant incentives
- Support peer-sharing and professional networking for promising practices and elevating the system as a whole
- Develop collaboration with local medical schools and schools of public health for student engagement and work-study in the community
  - Partnership with the LSU-HSC & Tulane’s Student National Medical Association, dedicated to African-American Medical School Students
COMMUNITY-LEVEL SOLUTIONS...for the health care system
HEALTH POLICY & ADVOCACY

- Secure resources for the infrastructure, workforce and operations of community health centers for primary care and mental health care in underserved neighborhoods
  - FQHC federal funds
  - State reimbursements
  - Local grants
- Develop promising practices for models of care using community health workers and patient navigators
- Advocate for policy and system changes for racial and economic justice
  - Minimum wage increase
  - Paid sick leave
- Support policies that increase access to health insurance
  - Medicaid expansion
  - Employer benefits
In closing

If OUR systems are set up for OUR failure, let US create better systems.
Thank you!

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