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About the Initiative

In 2015, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) awarded the State of Michigan \$70 million over 4 years to test and implement an innovative model for delivering and paying for health care in the state. A major focus area has been strengthening connections among providers of clinical care and community-based organizations that address social determinants of health through the creation of Community Health Innovation Regions.

Contact Us

Questions can be sent to:
CHIR@mail.mihealth.org

Links

[SIM Initiative Website](#)

[SIM Population Health Webpage](#)

[SIM Care Delivery Webpage](#)

Welcome to the April edition of the SIM Community Health Innovation (CHIR) Newsletter. The newsletter provides updates on SIM activities and highlights regional CHIR work and successes. It also provides resources to inform the continued development and implementation of CHIR work.

Upcoming Action Items

CHIRs

- ❑ **Monthly Status Report** - CHIRs are to submit their status report by **April 13**. Please use the following [template](#) and upload to your "CHIR Reporting/Status Reports" folder.
- ❑ **EGrAMS QPR/FSR**- CHIRs are to submit their Quarterly Progress Report and Monthly Financial Status Report in EGrAMS by **April 30**. Monthly Financial Status Report are due **April 30**.

SIM CHIR Team

- ❑ **Final Participation Guide**- the State team will release the final Participation guide by **April 13**.

Program News and Updates

MPHI Coaching Update

CHIR Backbone Organizations met February 28th in Lansing, Michigan to begin discussing three topics important to consider across the SIM initiative as we continue to drive the project forward. MPHI coaches led Backbone staff in facilitated discussions around the following topics: sustainability planning, clinical-community linkages, and data sharing and consents. Thank you to all participants for creating a robust and collaborative discussion! The next step is to form workgroups with Backbone staff on each of the three main topic areas. For CHIR members who were not present at the Backbone Meeting but need to be engaged in these workgroup discussions, please email the CHIR mailbox at CHIR@mail.mihealth.org.

Housing Update

When the CHIRs were asked to identify areas of need, housing was repeatedly noted as a significant barrier for their clients. MDHHS is working with state and local partners to develop a pilot program that will help the CHIR communities identify homeless clients with a history of high ED utilization and connect them with stable housing and supportive services. The point person for this work is the new Housing and Medicaid staff member, Amy Moore. Please feel free to contact her at MooreA29@Michigan.gov and (517) 285-2115.

March Technical Assistance

Joshua Williams from the Jackson CHIR gave participants an in depth look at the region's Clinical-Community linkage software. If participants have additional questions they would like to discuss with the Jackson team, please feel free to contact Joshua Williams at jwilli31@hfhs.org or Keven Mosley-Koehler at kmosley3@hfhs.org. Following the Tech Demonstration, Sheryl Weir, from MDHHS' Health Disparities Reduction and Minority Health, overviewed the work being done throughout her section to support the pursuit of Health Equity across the State. A major focus of the Minority Health team has been developing a range of toolkits and training materials for those looking to achieve a deeper understanding of equity strategies to be pursued at an individual, organizational, and regional level. The slides from Sheryl's presentation are available on the CHIR SharePoint [site](#). These training documents and toolkits can also be found directly at the State of Michigan [website](#).

Bright Spots

Politico Magazine recently released an article providing an overview of the steps taken by a Dallas hospital in implementing a program to decrease emergency department overutilization. Beginning in 2015, Parkland Memorial hospital built the Parkland Center for Clinical Innovation (PCCI) with a sophisticated software platform linking people who were discharged from the hospital to programs in the community. The software provides patient information in an exchange portal, using various levels of consent to protect sensitive client information and provide the information necessary for service providers to better support the most vulnerable people. On average, visits from 'frequent fliers' were cut by two-thirds or more, saving an estimated 12 million dollars. After two years, 150,000 names have been added to the portal. The Dallas Public School system, the city jail, and fire department have now expressed interest in connecting their system with PCCI. With 98 community groups currently enrolled, the goal is to increase this number to 300 by the end of 2018. For a detailed breakdown on the stages of consent and the ways in which PCCI is aiming to sustain its funding, please visit the [article](#) on Politico.

CHIR Spotlight

This month's CHIR Spotlight highlights the great work of Josh Stoltz and the Northern Michigan Community at Grow Benzie. After being energized by the Northern Michigan ABLe Change training, members of Grow Benzie decided to make a concrete change in the concession stand offerings in their local public schools. Starting with a Benzie Middle school, Grow Benzie gathered products from local food producers to make a shift from the typical sugary concessions stand offerings to intentionally selected, wholesome and nutritious snacks. Grow Benzie released a [video](#) on their Facebook page that highlights the concession stand makeover and features several students and parents who were involved in the project.

Resources

County Health Rankings

For nearly a decade, the County Health Rankings have shown that where we live makes a difference in how well and how long we live. This year, the analysis conducted by the Population Health Institute at the University of Wisconsin on behalf of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation shows that meaningful health gaps persist not only by place but also by race and ethnicity. These health gaps are largely influenced by differences in opportunities that disproportionately affect people of color, such as access to quality education, jobs, and safe, affordable housing. Please see their [report](#) to look at this county level data throughout your own CHIR.

IMPAQ Webinar

On Monday, April 9 from to 2:00-3:00 pm, IMPAQ International is hosting a webinar entitled, "Toward Better Integration of Health and Human Services: Linkages between Food Insecurity, SNAP and Health Care." Presenters will be discussing the ways in which food insecurities contribute to poor health outcomes and increased healthcare costs, then demonstrating to the group the ways existing food assistance programs can be leveraged to address these issues and lower healthcare costs. Visit their [website](#) for details and registration.

For More Information

www.michigan.gov/SIM | CHIR@mail.mihealth.org

