SHIN-NY Policy Committee Releases CBO Summary Report of Key Findings

In September, the New York State Department of Health submitted an amendment to the State's 1115 Medicaid demonstration waiver to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) entitled 'New York Health Equity Reform'. The waiver amendment aims to reduce health disparities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic in good part through investment in social services including those provided by Community Based Organizations (CBOs).

As a result, the SHIN-NY Policy Committee has started to consider several possible policy areas that may pose barriers to CBO participation and the exchange of social determinants of health (SDOH) data via the SHIN-NY. To address the potential policy concerns, the SHIN-NY Policy Committee convened a CBO Roundtable on October 19, 2022. The purpose of the roundtable was to engage social services organizations across NY State in a discussion to identify key policy challenges and data needs for effective data exchange as envisioned by the 1115 Waiver and ways that SHIN-NY policy can support these efforts.

Seventeen (17) CBOs attended the roundtable. The organizations were representative of CBOs that currently participate in the SHIN-NY and/or have some knowledge of the SHIN-NY and reflect a geographic spread that included both upstate, downstate, and north country organizations. A pre-roundtable survey of the attendees was conducted to get a better understanding of services and security practices and to help inform the guided discussion.

The report summarizes the pre-roundtable survey results and key findings of the roundtable and outlines potential next step recommendations. Read the report at the button below.

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NYeC's Stakeholder Engagement Team Requests Your Feedback

Following over a decade of foundation-building and evolution, the SHIN-NY now connects all hospitals in New York State, is used by well over 100,000 healthcare and community-based professionals and supports the care of millions of people who live in or receive care in New York.

NYeC's Stakeholder Engagement Team continues to gather meaningful feedback from across the continuum of care to learn how end-users interact with, and rely upon, SHIN-NY services including:

- **Routine use and awareness of SHIN-NY services for patient care**
- **Usefulness of the information obtained via the SHIN-NY**
- **Potential improvements to SHIN-NY services that would increase the usage and value of the data**

If your organization is connected to the SHIN-NY and you want to share your experiences with us, please email us at **info@nyehealth.org**.

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SHIN-NY Consent Webinar

The Statewide Health Information Network for New York (SHIN-NY) connects the six regional networks in NY known as Qualified Entities (QEs), which allow participating healthcare professionals, with patient consent, to quickly access electronic health information and securely exchange data statewide.

NYeC held a webinar on SHIN-NY Consent on November 30th where we discussed SHIN-NY consent policies, including consent for sensitive Part 2 data. A recording of this webinar will be available on our website soon. We look forward to hosting future webinars on this topic and more in the new year.

Technology-Enabled Fall Prevention Virtual Exercise Program Concludes

NYeC is completing a Technology-Enabled Fall Prevention Program thanks to a generous grant awarded by the **Mother Cabrini Health Foundation**. The ten-week virtual exercise program developed by **Wellness 360 Physical Therapy & Massage Therapy** has successfully concluded.

Program participants will continue to be monitored by their Personal Emergency Response System (PERS) wearable technology for the next several weeks. The PERS devices will collect post-intervention falls data which will be compared to baseline data collected at the start of the program with the goal of demonstrating a reduction in the average number of falls for the cohort.

We look forward to sharing the outcomes of this program in an upcoming newsletter.

HEALTHeLINK Study Shows Better Patient Outcomes in CPC+ Practices Utilizing Population Health Management Tools

HEALTHeLINK, with support from the Milbank Memorial Fund, conducted a study to examine if population health analytics helped to improve care quality and efficiency in primary care practices enrolled in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) program. Included below is a news release with more details.

HEALTHeLINK, the health information exchange (HIE) for Western New York, with support from the Milbank Memorial Fund, conducted a study to examine if population health analytics helped to improve care quality and efficiency in primary care practices enrolled in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) program.

CPC+ is a federal program that provided resources and incentives for primary care providers to improve quality, access, and efficiency of care.

The study results show that when a population health management tool and a value-based payment (VBP) model such as CPC+ are in place at the same time, practices tend to have significantly better outcomes as compared with instances where only one or none of the programs are in place.

The entire study can be found at the link below.

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Bronx RHIO Tracks Post COVID-19 Complications in Public Health Surveillance Project

The Bronx RHIO, in partnership with Comagine Health, Beyond HIE, UHIN, and Boise State University, has been awarded a five-year contract with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CDC's aim is to track and analyze the long-term effects of post COVID-19 conditions on communities in the Bronx and Utah to develop prevalence estimates of post-COVID-19 complications. As the pandemic progresses, it is apparent that there is a need to better understand the lasting impacts of COVID-19 on diverse communities to aid in future decisions about COVID-19 prevention and care. The team will analyze and aggregate clinical data, including social determinants of health information from the HIEs, as well as develop and run cohort studies to observe the impacts of COVID-19 on diagnosed patients over time.

"The coronavirus has placed a disproportionate burden on certain populations, including people of color, the elderly and those with pre-existing conditions," said Marc Bennett, Comagine Health's president and chief executive officer.

"Data from Bronx RHIO will provide critical insight into the long-term impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable groups, in particular racially and ethnically diverse groups with disproportionate high burden of co-morbid conditions and low socioeconomic status," said Dr. Terry Mahotiere, Bronx RHIO's Clinical Director.

Through illuminating these different effects of the pandemic on diverse populations, the team is working to support CDC in collecting and utilizing the acquired information to guide the next steps of healthcare and policy development.

Rochester RHIO Announces Marlene Bessette as CEO & President

Rochester RHIO announces the placement of Marlene Bessette as chief executive officer & president. Her full-time appointment is effective November 1. She was appointed as interim chief executive officer back in August.

Bessette brings over 20 years of leadership experience in non-profit administration and operations. She is a leader in cross-sector data sharing innovations. Bessette is a founding member and leader of both Your Health Partners of the Finger Lakes Behavioral Health Care Collaborative and the 360 Collaborative Network, a closed-loop referral network of social determinant of health providers in the Finger Lakes Region.

Bessette retired from Catholic Family Center in early 2022 where she served as the Chief Executive Officer.

Hixny Continues Evolving Snapshot with Input from Providers

Earlier this year, Hixny announced its partnership with Healthy Alliance in creating a capability for providers to refer patients to community-based organizations through Hixny's patient record snapshot—a FHIR-enabled application that delivers critical patient data at a glance. With a goal of making exceptional care easier to provide and more efficient, Hixny has continued evolving its snapshot view with direct input from providers. Over the last six months, several new features and capabilities have been added to the application as the result of feedback collected during monthly focus groups and through collaboration with provider groups across eastern New York.

Some of those enhancements include:

- Visits tile, which displays the history of the patient's visits across all settings—including inpatient, outpatient and emergency room visits—since their last visit with the ability to view any associated documents directly
- Care Management indicator, alerting providers whether a patient should be considered for—or may already be eceiving—care management services and the ability to click through to view details about contributing data factors
- Vitals tile, offering an immediate view of the most recent vital measurements taken with an option to view available history

Hixny is proud of the continued evolution of its snapshot and is confident that by working directly with its users, they are delivering a product that exceeds the need of providers without creating burdensome workflows. Read more about Hixny's patient record snapshot at the button below.

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HealtheConnections Continues Support of Public Health Initiatives Through Collaborative Partnerships

Recently, HealtheConnections demonstrated its ongoing commitment to supporting public health work through two collaborative efforts. The first involved a community project with the Westchester County Department of Community Mental Health. The project aimed to create a dashboard of hospitalizations and emergency (ED) visits involving opioid overdoses in Westchester County.

The dashboard directly aids the county's Opioid Response and Overdose Prevention Initiative (ORI), created in response to a rise in overdose deaths in Westchester County during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. By utilizing HealtheConnections' data, the county was able to pinpoint opioid overdose hot spots and trends and identify communities with the greatest need for overdose support.

Several years ago, HealtheConnections built a similar opioid hospitalization report for Oneida County. The new Westchester County dashboard builds from that original solution but presents the data differently by focusing on weekly patterns, allowing the County to examine trends and hot spots that weren't as easily discernable from the previous version.

Secondly, along with other RHIOs, NYeC, the NYSDOH, and external advisors, HealtheConnections is participating in the SHIN-NY Public Health Workgroup. The group aims to support State and local health departments across New York. Our goal is to protect and improve the health of our communities by addressing gaps in data to understand and intervene on issues impacting the health and safety of residents.

HealtheConnections is pleased to have the opportunity to continue supporting local health departments. Through creating tools and dashboards and being involved in an administrative capacity to help develop new policies and data strategies, HealtheConnections continues to demonstrate the innovative use of HIE infrastructure for public health priorities.

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Healthix: A Focus on Diabetes

By analyzing Healthix data, it was discovered that more than 250,000 individuals are at very high to high risk for diabetes, and that provides an opportunity for effective intervention and prevention. Health care providers can make a critical difference with outreach to these individuals. How many of these individuals are your patients?

To see the whole picture on diabetes risk among individuals in NYC and Long Island, click the button below.

November is Diabetes Awareness Month.

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Join Our Team!

Healthcare technology and digital health has never been more important as it is today. Come join our team and be in the center of it all in New York State!

Current openings:

Executive Coordinator – Full Time | NYC Office

Healthcare Data Analyst – Full Time | Albany or NYC Office

Project Manager – Full Time | Albany or NYC Office

Please continue to visit the NYeC Careers button below for future job opportunities. NYeC is an equal opportunity employer.

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