

Clackamas County Health @ Home Initiatives

AUTHOR(S): Philip Mason, Clackamas County Policy Analyst (moderator), Cathy Perry, Clackamas County Public Health Nursing Supervisor (panelist), Concetta Branson, Clackamas County Bringing Health Home Program Coordinator (panelist), Mary Horman, Clackamas County Healthy Homes Program Coordinator (panelist)

PRESENTATION FORMAT: Panel Presentation

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Public Health Nursing; Home Visiting; Local Public Health; Care Coordination; Collaborations Across Agencies; Health Reform; Evidence-based Practices

ABSTRACT: Clackamas County Public Health Division has created a new initiative focused on providing interventions based on evidence-based or promising practices. These interventions are targeted towards the most vulnerable citizens within their homes. The programs have been designed to focus on the coordination of health services amongst local agencies to improve health outcomes for clients and reduce their emergency department utilization. This interactive panel presentation will provide participants with an opportunity to learn the stories of these programs' development--House RX, Bringing Health Home & Healthy Homes. The evidence behind these programs, benefits & challenges will be described, along with ways that these programs could be replicated across other communities throughout Oregon.

OBJECTIVE(S): Identify opportunities to replicate and apply this framework within their local community or agency.

PANEL ABSTRACT 1: Cathy Perry: House RX is a quality improvement collaborative that has brought agencies that provide assessments & services within residents homes to work together to coordinate interventions and streamline processes. The collaborative improves the Clackamas County Housing Authority, Social Services, Behavioral Health, Public Health Nursing and Environmental Health referral and assessment processes. Local healthcare providers have also been involved and can now refer chronically ill clients who may need to have home environment evaluated for safety. Concerns addressed include: frequent falls at home, adequate heat, ventilation, and/or needs for repairs.

PANEL ABSTRACT 2: Concetta Branson: Bringing Health Home is a program focused on care coordination to residents of four identified public health sites in Clackamas County. Residents of these communities have been identified as high utilizers of medical care and in need of interventions to give them the right care, at the right place, at the right time. A Public Health Nurse is on-site and embedded at each community to help residents by providing advocacy skills, navigation assistance to connect with providers and education about the chronic conditions with which they are living. Activities for residents, such as walking groups, weight loss support group, community gardens and garden potlucks, nutrition/cooking classes and courses (e.g. Living Well with Chronic Conditions) are provided on an ongoing basis. This program is modeled on Indian Health Service Public Health Nursing Programs. It has been funded through Care Oregon Innovation Program and Health Share of Oregon's Transformation Fund (CCO).

PANEL ABSTRACT 3: Mary Horman: Clackamas County has replicated a successful program that Multnomah County has had in place for several years known as Healthy Homes. The goal of this program is to improve asthma control within vulnerable children's homes. This is provided by developing individual Asthma Control Plans which make improvements to the home environment and provide funding for essential items to keep a home asthma friendly (e.g. vacuums). This program's model is based on the Center for Disease Control Best Practice guidance and effectiveness review recommendations for asthma control programs that improve symptom free days, averted costs of emergency department and hospitalization use, school days missed and unscheduled office visits. This program is funded thanks to Health Share of Oregon's Transformation Fund (CCO).

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