

## **Addressing individual whole health as population health: A social determinants of health strategy**

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**TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE:** Public health professionals interested in the intersection of public health and social determinants of health; public health professionals working in collaboration with community-based organizations; public health professionals working in or with health care;

**ABSTRACT:** Social determinants of health (SDH) have a significant influence on individuals' and communities' health. In fact, there is growing evidence that one's zip code is more predictive of their health than their genetic code. Public health, health care and coordinated care organizations alike are all increasingly targeting SDH needs through community health needs assessment processes and investing accordingly. As the health care landscape changes and public health modernization efforts move forward, we are more often finding opportunities for collaboration to better address the population health needs of our communities. This presentation will discuss an innovative partnership between health care and social service agencies to address SDH needs of communities across the state. The Community Resource Desk program co-locates a high-performing social service agency on-site at a Providence medical facility to help connect individuals with social needs to relevant and appropriate resources available in their community. The model is located in 4 geographically diverse sites, including urban Multnomah County, suburban areas of Washington County and rural communities in Clatsop County. The programs has assisted over 3,500 individuals from vulnerable communities, the majority of whom have been living at or below the Federal Poverty Line, connect with nearly 6,000 community resources.

### **OBJECTIVE(S):**

- Illustrate ways to successfully partner with community-based organizations to connect individuals with needed resources
- Demonstrate effective ways to evaluate projects related to the social determinants of health
- Explore opportunities and barriers to incorporating social determinants of health interventions

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