

TITLE: A Traditional Health Worker Strategy in Action

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STUDENT SUBMISSION: No

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: CCO's (Coordinated Care Organization) journey and approach on Traditional Health Workers (THW). We will explore our learnings of what it truly takes to engage, honor THW voice in a program development.

ABSTRACT: Traditional Health Workers (THWs) are trusted individuals from their local communities who provide person and community centered care by bridging communities and the health systems that serve them, advocating for health plan members, supporting adherence to care and treatment, and empowering individuals to be agents in improving their own health. Though evidence supports the value of THWs, few health systems across the nation have incorporated these health workers into their care teams. Understanding and building organizational capacity for the integration of THW workforce within the health care sector requires a supportive organizational culture among sector leaders and providers, as well honoring the wisdom and expertise of this workforce. The following presentation from Health Share Oregon's team, provides a CCO's (Coordinated Care Organization) journey and approach on Traditional Health Workers (THW). We will explore our learnings of what it takes to engage, honor THW voice in a program development.

OBJECTIVE(S): 1. Structural overview of THWs and their role within the health system and public health field. 2. An exploration on the history, current state, and value of THWs from a culturally responsive and an equity centered approach to community health.3. To synthesize current understanding of how Traditional Health Worker (THW) programs can best be designed and operated in health systems.4. Offer insight into the Traditional Health Worker (THWs) Journey and Vision.5. Provide a model for a successful integration and sustainable infrastructure support for community learning around THWs.
