

TITLE: A new interdisciplinary collaborative to create actionable evidence: the InterCommunity Health Research Institute

AUTHOR(S): Paulina Kaiser and Sandi Phibbs

PRESENTER(S): Paulina Kaiser and Sandi Phibbs

STUDENT SUBMISSION: No

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: researchers, evaluators, healthcare systems

ABSTRACT: Background: Health systems are increasingly invested in optimizing population health and health equity but often struggle to implement effective interventions targeting social determinants of health. Purpose: We will describe a novel interdisciplinary collaboration convened by the InterCommunity Health Network Coordinated Care Organization to leverage rigorous research and evaluation methods to create actionable evidence to inform community health investments and initiatives in Benton, Lincoln and Linn counties. Methods: The InterCommunity Health Research Institute (IHRI) was created in 2022 to bridge gaps between health systems, community partners, academic researchers, and policy makers in understanding and driving effective interventions to address social determinants of health. IHRI has engaged the OSU Center for Health Innovation (OCHI) to support the strategic planning process and identify areas of focus. IHRI provide robust program evaluation to support best practices in social determinants of health programs across Benton, Lincoln and Linn counties. Outcomes: We will present challenges and lessons learned from the initial phases of this multidisciplinary collaboration. Implications: Successful collaborations with cross-disciplinary partners are essential for the future of public health, though varying priorities and capacities can be challenging. We will provide insights into strategies for recognizing and balancing diverse perspectives in collaborative work.

OBJECTIVE(S): 1. Describe a strategic planning process for determining research priorities. 2. Identify ways to balance the needs of multiple stakeholders in the strategic planning process.
