

TITLE: Coordinated Cross-Sector Approach to Sustaining Evidence Based Health Education Programming

AUTHOR(S): Erin Sedlacek and Kacey Urrutia

PRESENTER(S): Erin Sedlacek or Kacey Urrutia

STUDENT SUBMISSION: No

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Program Developers

ABSTRACT: Problem/Context: Improving patient self-management skills through health education has been shown to reduce overall healthcare utilization and decrease emergency department visits, hospitalizations, and prescription drug use, resulting in healthcare savings. Historically, partners in the region had struggled to sustain the delivery of health education programs. Aim: The development of the Regional Health Education Hub and a coordinated approach to the delivery of health education programs has transformed the delivery and sustainability of health education offered in English and Spanish in the Linn, Benton, and Lincoln County region. Approach: Cross-sector community partners, including health services, coordinated care organization, public health, mental health, seniors and disability services, and parks and recreation departments have taken a coordinated approach to: increase class participation, decrease barriers to attending, decrease administrative burden, develop referral processes, and identify reimbursement model(s) to sustain programming. Conclusions: A coordinated approach and cross-sector collaboration results in an increase in class participation, completion rates, type of and number of classes offered. In addition, barriers to attendance are documented, referral processes are developed, and reimbursement models identified. Implications for Public Health: Cross sector collaboration can result in sustainable health education programming.

OBJECTIVE(S): Identify key elements for a coordinated cross-sector approach to sustaining health education programming.
