SBHC Challenge: Improving data functionalities

In 2011, the Oregon legislature passed legislation to transform the way services were delivered to Oregonians, which focused on ensuring a healthy population through person-centered care in a cost-effective manner. SBHCs were recognized partners in health care reform to help ensure a healthy population of children and adolescents.

The 2013 Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 2440, which allocated approximately $175,000 to fund the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to incentivize organizations to accomplish one or more of the following goals:

1. Increase the number of SBHCs certified as patient-centered primary care homes (PCPCH).
2. Improve the coordination of care for patients served by SBHCs and CCOs.
3. Improve the effectiveness of the delivery of health services through SBHCs.

Although projects varied considerably among the grantees, a number of common strategies were employed to address these challenges which are highlighted in the following tables.

Grantee Project Challenges

Grantee Information

Grant Project Strategies

Grant funds were used to support larger, systems-level innovation projects as well as smaller, targeted projects to meet the goals outlined in HB 2440. During the course of the grant, several SBHC-specific challenges or goals emerged related to PCPCH recognition, care coordination, and effective health service delivery. Although projects varied considerably among the grantees, a number of common strategies were employed to address these challenges which are highlighted in the following tables.

SBHC Challenge: Increasing policies and workflows

Strategies: Develop activities for patient care coordination, communication in patient care, and tracking of specialty referrals, and capturing client information from other providers.

Grantees: Intercommunity Health Network CCO, Jackson Care Connect CCO, Parkrose Community Center CCO, and Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center.

SBHC Challenge: Assigning SBHC providers as Primary Care Providers (PCP)

Strategies: Track POAs through EHR and client intake forms to ensure that SBHC providers are assigned as POPs.

Grantees: Intercommunity Health Network CCO, Jackson Care Connect CCO, and Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center.

SBHC Challenge: Coordinating care with local providers

Strategies: Establish state-wide and local calls to coordinate health and social services referrals for SBHC clients.

Grantees: Intercommunity Health Network CCO, Jackson Care Connect CCO, Parkrose Community Center CCO, and Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center.

SBHC Challenge: Building relationships with CCOs

Strategies: Develop system to track referral and completions and conduct gap analysis of referral system.

Grantees: Intercommunity Health Network CCO, Jackson Care Connect CCO, and Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center.

SBHC Challenge: Exploring alternatives to traditional payment methods

Strategies: Convene workshops comprised of SBHC medical sponsors, local health departments, employers, and state and national partners.

Grantees: Intercommunity Health Network CCO, Jackson Care Connect CCO, and Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center.

Inital Findings / Lessons Learned

As pilot projects draw to a close in June 2015, several initial findings have emerged:

Innovation Grant projects provided an opportunity to regularly convene COCs and SBHC medical sponsors, which reportedly strengthened the relationships between these entities.

- COCs increasingly appreciated the SBHC model aligns with COC goals and has reported positive outcomes on key measures.

- Regular contact with COCs led to systemic policy changes, such as permitting SBHC providers to be assigned as POPs, working together to meet requirements of the State POP Exit, and sharing information on safety net health providers and schools.

- Encouraged shared learning on how to increase the number of well-child visits provided to SBHC clients. Some grantees found that targeted outreach and incentives for clients and parents increased well-child visits. Others found provider incentives and increased primary care hours to be most effective.

- COCs were encouraged to provide information about preventive and acute care provided outside the SBHC networked new workflows and information sharing on Electronic Health Record (EHR) and secure messaging systems.

- SBHCs are implementing innovations that are less expensive and in line with local needs.

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Next Steps

Innovation Grant funding provided an opportunity for local communities to explore approaches to advance Oregon’s health system transformation through school-based health. As grantees continue to build upon these initial efforts, the SBHC State Program Office will apply lessons learned through training and technical assistance to SBHCs. A final report will be shared with partners, COCs, and local SBHCs later this Summer.

Innovative Integration with Health System Transformation: Oregon SBHC Innovation Grants

Adolescent and School Health Program - Public Health Division - Oregon Health Authority

Background

School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs) have been operating in Oregon since the early 1980s as a unique partnership between public and private entities. With the passage of the Affordable Care Act, Oregon developed Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs), which focus on ensuring a healthy population through person-centered care in a cost-effective manner. SBHCs are recognized partners in health care reform to help ensure a healthy population of children and adolescents.

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Grantee Project Challenges

- Staff turnover
- Partner willingness to actively participate in collaborative meetings

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