Poverty, Health, & Medicaid Reform

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Next Steps in Health Reform
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Promises: Health & Poverty

Is it the answer to our health care cost concerns?
- Achieving Better Health at Reduced Cost
  - Accountable Care
  - Value–Based Purchasing
- State Flexibility to Tackle Social Determinants of Health

Does it have transformational possibilities?
- Is the health care “system” addressing the reality of poverty for health?
- Is the “medicalization of poverty” really the best thing that ever happened to public health/social services sectors?
Some Hospitals Prescribe Food, Take Other Steps to Fight Food Insecurity

IRS rules and growing evidence pressure hospitals to do more to fight hunger in their communities.

Kaven Flowers, left, and K’Moira Jackson are two of the thousands of patients who have received free meals from Arkansas Children’s Hospital in Little Rock. Courtesy Arkansas Children’s Hospital
One study found that patients served by medical respite programs were 50% less likely to be readmitted to a hospital within 90 days after discharge compared with those who go directly back onto the street.

State Flexibility to Tackle Social Determinants of Health through Medicaid

- Regional Care Collaborative Organizations
- Accountable Communities
- Integrated Health Partnerships
- Coordinated Care Organizations
- Accountable Care Organizations (Totally)

Social Determinants of Health (SDH), as defined by the World Health Organization, are the circumstances in which people are born, grow up, live, work, and age, and the systems put in place to deal with illness. These circumstances are in turn shaped by a wider set of forces: economics, social policies, and politics. Examples of social determinants of health include: employment, housing, food security, literacy, access to transportation, and education level. According to Healthy People 2020, the social determinants of health can be subdivided into five key areas:

- Economic Stability
- Education
- Social and Community Context
- Health and Health Care
- Neighborhood and Built Environment

The SDH Program at Partnership works in collaboration with key partners throughout the health system and within the community to target social determinants of health. Through working across sectors in various roles, PHC is working to alleviate social determinants of health and impact the health outcomes of our members and the communities we serve.

http://www.partnershiphp.org/About/Pages/default.aspx
http://www.partnershiphp.org/Providers/Quality/Pages/Initiatives/Initiatives.aspx
Implementation

- Partnership
  - Cross Agency & Cross Sector
  - Collaboration & Collective Action

- Community Health Teams
  - Patient & Community Centered
  - Cultural & Linguistic Competence

- Reliable Data Collection
  - Uses: Interventions at Individual & Population Level; Rate Setting/Risk Adjustment for Payment; QC
  - Methods: Surveys; Screening; Database Sharing
The Challenges of Using Medicaid to Tackle Social Determinants of Health

In many states, “fetal rights” laws are putting pregnant women in jail

No Second Chance
People with Criminal Records Denied Access to Public Housing

Republicans Pave The Way To Drug Test Poor And Jobless

Wisconsin seeks to mandate drug tests for Medicaid recipients

To Improve Health Care, How Do We Build Trust And Respect For Patients?
By Megan Collado, Tara Oakman, and Mona Shah (9/26/17)

From eleven funded studies, the RWJF and AcademyHealth report early findings about consumers' trust in the health care system. They also announce a Call for Proposals for empirical research to gain understanding of how to build patients' trust and foster mutual respect across the many facets of the system.

## Data Collection

### Exhibit 2: Current Data Collection on Common SDOH Domains in Select States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SDOH Domains</th>
<th>KS</th>
<th>MA</th>
<th>MI</th>
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<th>OR</th>
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*Data collected from Medicaid beneficiaries at the individual and/or population level.

† Data not systematically collected on the entire Medicaid population.

https://www.chcs.org/media/CHCS-SDOH-Measures-Brief_120716_FINAL.pdf
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