



Director's Report June 15, 2018

MESSAGE OF THE MONTH

Data Exchange – *Delivering consumer-centered, data-informed care. Whole person care starts with a whole person view. Data Exchange is information to coordinate care for optimal health.*

- Alameda County Care Connect received nine responses to the Request for Proposals for the Data Exchange Community Health Record (CHR). The evaluation period and vendor interviews are currently being conducted and will result in us awarding contract to the highest ranked bidder.
- The Board letter recommending the award to the selected vendor is scheduled to be presented in September 2018. The contract for the new vendor to begin developing the CHR is estimated to begin in October 2018 and the application will launch in mid-2019.
- Though significant feedback has been gathered from various stakeholders to date, additional suggestions for features and functionality for the CHR tool are welcome and can be submitted to a member of the Data Exchange Unit for consideration. Input is critical for the design and setup of the tool. **For information on the CHR or to inquire about future participation in the rollout of this system, e-mail careconnecthelp@acgov.org.**
- Care Connect is presenting on the Data Exchange work to the HealthPAC contractors on July 19, 2018. This meeting is an opportunity for the eight community Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHCs) and Alameda Health System to learn more about the data exchange and data sharing agreements. The community FQHCs include Asian Health Services, Axis Community Health, La Clinica, Lifelong Medical Care, Native American Health Center, Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center, Tri-City Health Center, and West Oakland Health Council.

Privacy Laws and the Culture of Sharing

The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) hosted a statewide Whole Person Care Data Sharing Convening that was attended by Care Connect and 19 other whole person care pilots from throughout the state on May 22nd. Forum presenters discussed strategies for a stronger culture of data sharing, which include creating a dynamic balance between data protection and the spirit of innovation and building trust via stakeholder inclusion and transparent governance. Foley and Lardner, LLP highlighted laws that promote data sharing, such as the Whole Person Care (WPC) Statute W&I 14184.60 (c6), which overrides state confidentiality provisions to allow for sharing of health information and other data with WPC entities.

Chapter 544/AB 210 (Santiago). Homeless Multidisciplinary Personnel Team

According to AB 210, a County may establish a homeless adult and family multidisciplinary personnel team with the goal of facilitating the expedited identification, assessment, and linkage of homeless individuals to housing and supportive services within that county and to allow provider agencies to share confidential information for the purpose of coordinating housing and supportive services to ensure continuity of care.

The homeless service provider agencies serving adults or families that may share information under this section include social services, health services, mental health services, substance abuse services, homeless services, and housing.

MILESTONES

New Community Based Case Management Entity (CB-CME) Members

There are now a total of 12 CB-CMEs that are providing comprehensive care management and care coordination services with Care Connect. We anticipate 15 will be under contract by June 30, 2018. On July 1, 2018, our contract with Anthem will begin, with additional CB-CME services.

\$5 million Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool (FHS) Passed

The Board of Supervisors approved the Housing Authority of Alameda County and the Health Care Services Agency (HCSA) request for \$5 million to create a flexible housing subsidy pool for eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries. The Housing Authority of the County of Alameda will administer the pool to provide rent subsidies. HCSA anticipates adding funding to the pool over time and will track outcomes of the participants.

New HMIS Goes Live

A new Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for data collection and reporting, Clarity Human Services, was launched in May with the vendor Bitfocus. Alameda County Housing and Community Development, in partnership with EveryOne Home and Alameda County Care Connect spearheaded this effort to implement a new system. Clarity is designed to meet the needs of the Housing Crisis Response System, in addition to required HUD reporting. Clarity will be used to securely store client information, support client-centered collaborations, report on system performance, better understand homelessness in Alameda County, and plan for the future. Agencies that have not been part of the HMIS, but would like to participate, should e-mail their request to hmissupport@acgov.org.

Consumer and Family Experience

We are in the process of interviewing nominees for the Consumer and Family Fellowship. Final decisions will be made by June 30th with a meet and greet to follow in July. The fellowship is a closed group of 10-12 consumers and family members who will meet regularly as direct service experts to assist on specific projects, such as vetting of communications directed at consumers providing the consumer voice and advocacy to planning groups, for Care Connect and partner agencies. Fellows will receive leadership development and skills training to support their full participation. Fellows will meet for 10-12 hours per month for one year and a stipend will be provided for their service. **For more information, visit <https://www.careconnectfellowship.com/apply/>.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

State Funding for Housing and Healthcare

The Governor's May Revise proposes \$359 million in one-time spending and \$64 million in on-going allocations. This includes a one-time Homelessness Emergency Aid block grant of \$250 million administered through the Continuum of Care for cities, counties, and Joint Powers Authorities that declare a local shelter crisis and identify City-County coordination. Grants can be used for emergency housing vouchers, rapid rehousing, and emergency shelter construction. A one-time augmentation of \$50 million for the Department of Health Care Services to provide counties with funding for intensive outreach, treatment and related services for homeless persons in need of mental health services is included. **For more information, visit <https://www.cacities.org/Top/News/News-Articles/2018/May/Governor-Releases-May-Revise-Budget-with-New-One-t>.**

The State budget provides an increase of \$70.4 million for Medi-Cal treatment of patients with Hepatitis C, regardless of liver fibrosis stage or comorbidity. **For more information, visit <http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/2018-19/pdf/Revised/BudgetSummary/HealthandHumanServices.pdf>.**

Full Service Partnership RFP

Behavioral Health Care Services (BHCS) released the RFP for the overhaul and expansion of the Full Service Partnership for mental health services. BHCS will use this RFP to enter into a contract for FSP services with up to 11 unique community based organizations (CBO). Contracts will be awarded in July 2018. **For more information, visit <http://www.acgov.org/gsa/purchasing/bidContent ftp/rfpDocs/RFP%2318-02.pdf>.**

Decrease in Opioid Mortality Rates

Recently released data for calendar 2017, revealed that Alameda County had a 49% decrease in opioid overdose deaths. **For more information, visit <http://accareconnect.org/news-updates/>.**

Hepatitis C Eradication Effort Gains Momentum

Alameda County is expanding the Hepatitis C (Hep C) Vaccine treatment network incorporating the HealthPAC clinics, current health systems, and private community providers including linkage to substance use and behavioral health treatment for more complex patients. With these consolidated efforts, Hep C can be cured for more people in the County. **For more information, visit <http://accareconnect.org/news-updates/>.**

For more information, visit the website at www.accareconnect.org.