Program Spotlight

WellSpan Summit Legacy Medical Group
“Community Health Worker - Spanish/Latino Population”

The Community Health Worker serves as a link or liaison between the health/social services and the Spanish/Latino population to facilitate access to services, increase health knowledge and self-sufficiency, improve quality and cultural competence of service delivery, and close health care gaps.

Activity Focus

Based on the most recent Community Assessment, it was noted through the Community Focus groups that the Hispanic/Latino population has difficulty assessing healthcare services as a result of language barriers and stigma. Members of the Hispanic-speaking focus group reported a lack of confidence in translation services, and/or struggled with finding free or low-cost resources to develop stronger English-speaking skills so they would be able to confidently and effectively communicate with their healthcare providers. Additional unmet needs identified by this included a growing concern for mental health, behavioral health issues, lack of knowledge about local social services and health resources and how to access these resources. The goal is to learn more about the patient population in Franklin County related to their demographics, their cultural thoughts and norms, their perspectives related to preventative and chronic care management, their knowledge of resources, etc. As more networking with the patient population has been done, the new Community Health Worker is addressing individual needs that had been identified, as well as needs of the population and gaps in the services available to meet these needs.

Program Results

From July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022:

While attending Mobile COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics at YP Jewelers, the Community Health Worker assisted with the distribution of 352 vaccine doses throughout 15 clinics. She assisted with providing 31 doses of the COVID vaccine and 20 flu shots at a hybrid clinic on October 30th at the Trinity Episcopal Church in Chambersburg.

While attending the North Square Farmers Market from July-August 2021, the Community Health Worker distributed 28 masks; 32 hand sanitizers; and 28 Market Bucks program vouchers. She also assisted with 104 blood pressure screenings. From May-June 2022, she provided educational materials and resources to at least 52 attendees.

The Community Health Worker contacted and has networked with various committees, organizations, and groups in Franklin County related to their demographics, their cultural thoughts and norms, their perspectives related to preventative and chronic care management, their knowledge of resources, etc. As more networking with the patient population has been done, the new Community Health Worker is addressing individual needs that had been identified, as well as needs of the population and gaps in the services available to meet these needs.

She has connected with 64 restaurants and small businesses, who are posting her information board that she updates throughout the month based on new events, information, or services being provided.

While attending Mobile COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics at Trinity Episcopal Church in Chambersburg, the Community Health Worker assisted with the distribution of 161 vaccine doses throughout six clinics since November 20th. She also helped to provide 19 flu shots at three of the clinics and distributed 178 home COVID tests to attendees at two of the clinics.

She assisted with two Mobile Mammography Clinics in May, where a total of 44 individuals received mammograms. WellSpan Health partnered with Keystone Health and the Franklin County Housing Authority for the clinics.

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The conditions where people live, learn, work, and play affect their health risks and outcomes. These conditions are known as social determinants of health. The Summit Endowment strives to better understand and address the social determinants of health and identify the distinct needs of vulnerable populations. Throughout the year, the endowment improves the health of people living in Franklin County by supporting many health initiatives as well as developing programs and activities offered by other nonprofit organizations as they, too, work to improve the health of the Franklin County area.

Priorities

The Summit Endowment Committee prioritized grantmaking based on findings from the 2018 WellSpan Summit Health Community Health Needs Assessment, which identified key issues including access to care, nutrition, physical activity, and behavioral health. Specific objectives that aligned with the Healthy People 2030 leading health indicators and the Pennsylvania Department of Health State Health Improvement Plan were developed. Federal and state-level resources were used to categorize and better align grantmaking to address the unmet needs of our community.

Successful applicants were required to participate in a Healthy Franklin County Task Force, continuing collaborative efforts in planning, supporting and measuring their work. Grantees consistently reported the benefits of task force participation including resource sharing, relationship building and shared excitement in the opportunity to work together to achieve real and lasting impact.

Capacity Building Workshops

In 2021, the Summit Endowment offered education to help community organizations enhance skills to achieve success. A grant-making workshops was offered virtually to support nonprofit organizations in preparing successful applications for Summit Endowment funding.

2022 Summit Endowment Grant Awards

The following organizations were awarded grants for their efforts in addressing the health needs of Franklin County:

United Way of Franklin County - Stepping Forward Works - This program connects individuals with opportunities to explore in-demand career pathways in the community. It helps to reduce the proportion of persons living in poverty by connecting people to training and stable employment, while teaching the essential skills that help effectively manage a household, budget expenses, and create long-term savings.

NETwork Ministries - Growing Gardens, Cultivating Community - This program serves the low-income and multi-ethnic community in the Redwood neighborhood of Chambersburg by increasing residents’ access to healthy, locally grown food options. The project will provide opportunities for adults and youth to participate in community gardening, educational activities and workshops, and neighborhood meals to increase awareness and encourage consumption of nutritious foods.

WellSpan Summit Legacy Medical Group - Community Health Worker - This grant serves as a link or liaison between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services, increase health knowledge and self-sufficiency, improve quality and cultural competence of service delivery, and close health care gaps.

WellSpan Summit Legacy Medical Group - Community Health Worker for the Spanish/Latino population - This grant serves as a link or liaison between health/social services and the Spanish/Latino population to facilitate access to services, increase health knowledge and self-sufficiency, improve quality and cultural competence of service delivery, and close health care gaps.

Keystone Health - Crisis Intervention Certification - This program focuses on Keystone Health’s staff becoming certified as an approved entity for part of the National Suicide Prevention Hotline. Staff (current and future) will receive training and certification from the American Association of Suicidology in order to reduce local suicides and provide appropriate resources when taking calls through the Lifeline/988 number.

Waynesboro Area Business and Education Community Foundation - Extending Community Partnerships - This program increases the community’s family engagement events and community resources and encourage those attending to rethink current methods and styles of living.

Slow the Spread Grants

Ten organizations in Franklin County received Slow the Spread grants through WellSpan Health to assist in maneuvering through the difficulties that COVID-19 presented. $43,304 was awarded to the organizations between December 2021 and January 2022. The funds supported food, housing, medical, virtual, and sanitation/prevention needs of the grant recipients.

Waynesboro EMS - Purchased each provider at the Waynesboro Ambulance Squad an ENVO N95 Reusable mask, as well as replacement filters.

Mt. Alto Ambulance Assoc. - Purchased advanced equipment to mitigate the spread of COVID.

Greencastle-Antrim Endowment Scholarships

Greencastle-Antrim Endowment, a component of the Summit Endowment, awarded seven scholarships to graduating seniors at Greencastle-Antrim Senior High School who are pursuing a career in health care. They also awarded 13 renewal scholarships for students in their second, third, and fourth year of college. The Endowment awarded $40,000 in scholarships this year.

Greencastle-Antrim Endowment Scholarships

Herrmann, Emma Johnson, Abigail Cunningham, Kelsey Creager and Gavin Davidson.

Left to right: Jeff Shank, Madison Yates, Kara Herrmann, Emma Johnson, Abigail Cunningham, Kelsey Creager and Gavin Davidson.

Hearthstone Retirement Home - Purchased disposable masks and gloves for staff and residents as well as sanitation supplies.

Hartford Retirement Home - Placed residents into hotels to quarantine for COVID.

Shippensburg Produce and Outreach - Provided healthy alternatives to families in need.

Caroline Cares - Repaired and replaced faulty toilets at the Family Shelter in Shippensburg, PA.

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SCCAP Franklin Together Reentry Coalition - Moving Forward Peer Support Group - This program addresses the need for mindfulness in the criminal justice population due to past traumas.

The Institute - Turning the Page on Movement: StoryWalk at Pine Hill Recreation Area - This project seeks to increase resources for families and children to engage in playful outdoor movement while enjoying a literacy component.

First Start Partnerships for Children and Families, Inc. - The Family Center - This program focuses on creating a stronger community through thriving families and will ready children through a brick and mortar family Center in Franklin County. The main goal will be to increase the proportion of children who are developmentally ready for school.

Thriving Thoughts Global-Fortifying Mental Health through Thought Change: An Awareness Project - This program plans to pioneer a mental health promotion and mental ill health prevention awareness campaign as a strategy to combat the continually worsening mental health of our community.

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Homeless Matters - Provided food to local, low income families and organizations and filling blessing boxes.

South Mountain Volunteer Fire Dept. - Purchased masks and gloves for staff and the community.

Shippensburg EMS - Purchased medical supplies for COVID patients.

Safe Harbour - Covered costs of a motel for COVID positive residents, food, and the sanitization of the shelter spaces.

Total Funding Awarded in 2022

$442,024.96