

Connecticut SBHC Policy Collaborative

Cross-Team Learning Session

October 27, 2015





CT Policy Collaborative Team Members:

- Jesse White-Fresé, Executive Director, CASBHC, Team Lead
- Mark Keenan, Department of Public Health
- Nina Holmes, Department of Social Services
- Elizabeth Krause, Connecticut Health Foundation (former member, Yolanda Caldera-Durant)
- JoAnn Eaccarino, Child and Family Agency
- Melanie Bonjour, CT Institute for Communities



Our Connecticut Team with John Schlitt





Goals for CT Policy Collaborative

Goal 1: Engage the DPH SBHC program office, DSS, SBHC Advisory Committee, and CT Policy Team members to ensure minimum standards and a definition for CT SBHCs are adopted into state statute or state regulation.

Expected Outcome:

- SBHC definition and standards introduced in legislative session
- SBHC definition passed into state statute by end of session



Goal 2: Align the DPH SBHC program office, DSS, SBHC Advisory Committee, and SIM Program office around the Patient-Centered School Based Health Care (PC-SBHC) standards that will be tested in CT SBHCs.

Expected Outcome:

- Educate members of CT Policy Team on current status of SBHCs in CT medical home program; review PC-SBHC standards
- Select pilot sites to be assessed for readiness and implement practice transformation
- Provide updates to SIM and DSS



Goal 3: Inform CASBHC member organizations, DSS, DPH, and the SIM Project Office in the developments of the PC-SBHC model project and advocate for acceptance and recognition of the PC-SBHC model statewide and nationally.

Expected Outcome:

- Support of DPH, SIM, School Based Health Alliance, and DSS for PC-SBHC model
- Policy team/stakeholders have knowledge of payment reforms that impact practices achieving recognition -- enhanced payments, meaningful use, value-based payments
- Work with DSS/DPH to create mechanism to achieve recognition/receive enhanced payments to sustain SBHCs



Results

Goal 1:

- Strong advocacy from CASBHC members and supportive organizations throughout legislative session
- SBHC definition passed as Public Act 15-59 and signed into law by Governor in July 2015 -Victory for SBHCs!
- Statute states "minimum quality standards *may* be adopted by Commissioner of Public Health" standards not yet codified in statute or regulation SBHC Advisory Committee to strategize in meeting on 9/29



Results

Goal 2:

- Pilot sites in East Hartford and New London received initial training and readiness assessment for practice transformation through Patient-Centered School Based Health Care model
- Receiving bi-weekly TA from Primary Care Development Corporation (PCDC) on achievement of standards and elements
- Sites are currently on 'glide path' and are preparing for accreditation through PCDC



Results

Goal 3:

- CASBHC member organizations, funders, DPH, DSS, and SIM are aware of pilot project
- Meeting on PC-SBHC held with SIM Program staff at East Hartford High SBHC
- Meeting on PC-SBHC held at DSS with pilot site staff, DSS staff, CHN-CT staff, CASBHC
- DSS PCMH Care Management Committee and SIM Practice Transformation Taskforce informed that SBHCs are testing model and achieving NCQA 2014 standards



Lessons Learned

- Definition: Consistent advocacy with a broad base of supporters is key to achieving legislation
- Flexibility and persistence led to success of PA15-59
- PC-SBHC: Inadequate understanding of pediatric primary care and integrated behavioral health delivered in SBHCs
- Systems change requires applied energy over time
- Creating an accreditation process and PC-SBHC recognition may well be a multi-year effort that involves a range of stakeholders



Next Steps

Patient Centered - SBHC Model:

- Identifying potential barriers to participating in the CT 'medical home' program
- Creating a pathway for potential recognition as a PC-SBHC
- Pilot project to demonstrate achievement of pediatric outcome measures in SBHCs: use measures developed in various state initiatives (SIM, DSS, PCMH) and National Quality Initiative
- Eligibility/barriers to receiving primary care rate increase to 100% of Medicare rates for SBHC medical clinicians

DPH Minimum Standards:

- Achieve adoption of standards into DPH regulation
- If not regulatory, legislation to adopt standards in statute



Questions?

