POPULATION HEALTH: Collaborating Across Sectors to Improve Health Outcomes

Tricia Gehrlein, Director, Population Health



Morongo Basin Healthcare District

- A Special District is a State Public Agency designation created through legislation
- 1,800 square mile Service Area, which covers:
 - Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, Twentynine Palms, Pioneertown, Landers, and Wonder Valley
- 4 clinic sites, which operate under a Public Model of an FQHC Primarily FFS Medi-Cal; Medicare; some Private Insurance; and Sliding Fee Scale

Social Determinants of Health

- MBHD Needs Assessment
- MBHD Board Strategic Plan
 - Bringing it all together

Population Health

- "Ensuring that member of society are healthy and reaching their full potential requires
- the prevention of disease and injury;
- the promotion of health and well being;
- the assurance of conditions in which people can be healthy;
- and the provision of timely, effective, and coordinated health care."

http://www.nap.edu/read/13381/chapter/2

Population Health: Breakdown

- Four Components:
 - Clinical
 - Education
 - Community
 - Policy

Getting Started

• <u>DATA!</u>

- Define your population
- Define your priorities and stick with them
- Measure
 - Clinical Outcomes
 - Process

Clinical

Three Great Resources:

L. County Health Rankings

Social Determinants of Health Model

2. Practical Playbook

Bringing Public Health and Primary Care Together

3. Center for Care Innovations

Population Health Toolkit

Education

- Community Education
 - **One-time seminars**
- Patient Education
 - 12-52 week courses
- Education is broader than chronic disease management
 - Prevention
 - General Health Knowledge
 - Life Skills Training

Community

- Partnering
 - Think unconventionally
- Unbiased Leader
- Know Who to Engage and When
- Cross-Sector
- Getting People to the Table

Policy

Health in all policies: "P"olicy and "p"olicy

"P" = Elected Officials

"p" = Internal to an organization

Recap

- Clinical
- Education
- Community
- Policy

Every community has similar challenges (transportation, education, employment opportunities, youth engagement, diabetes) – but the solutions to those challenges may be distinctly different from place to place. Using the four pillars as a guide, it is essential that the approach is community appropriate in order to achieve improved health outcomes.

Challenges

- Help others understand their role in health
- Understand the difference between a program and systems change
- Be flexible and willing to fail but recover quickly
- Know what to measure
- Funding
- Leadership turnover