

Mental Health and Addiction Work Group

Charter

Purpose and Scope:

The Mental Health and Addiction Work Group will evaluate the inventory of mental health and addiction services for adults and children in the area. An important objective is to provide data and analysis that will assist the new proposed regional health system ("Newco") in developing an optimal structure to combat addiction and substance abuse, reduce the number of newborns born into addiction, and to reduce dependency on drugs and alcohol through improved access and support. The findings of the work group will be a source of input into the development of Newco's ten (10) year comprehensive community health improvement plan.

Deliverables:

The work group will produce a document for consideration by Newco that shall consider, but is not limited to, the following:

- Produce an inventory of regional outpatient, community and inpatient services available for adults and children;
- Receive input from physicians, mental health experts, addiction recovery experts and patients with respect to their experiences in the system, and suggestions for improved coordination and gaps in availability of services;
- Assess the national recommendations for best practices in community-based and residential mental health and addiction disorders, and discover opportunities for evolving the regional mental health delivery system toward the national best practices;
- Assess existing gaps in appropriate access points (especially in disadvantaged populations), quality, funding, and use of best practices;
- Identify opportunities to expand education and training for practitioners in mental health and addiction through existing partnerships with East Tennessee State University and potential new partnerships with other organizations;
- Review research-based protective factors and recommend solutions to minimize the initiation of drugs and alcohol in young people and promote mental health and well-being;
- Explore opportunities to better integrate primary care, mental health and addiction services, and to better coordinate care of individuals living with mental disorders and/or addiction across frequently used systems such as judicial, housing, medical and other welfare and family support services; and

- Identify opportunities for enhanced partnerships between Newco and East Tennessee State University, as well as potential new partnerships with other academic institutions, community-based providers and other organizations.

The work group's report will focus on achieving sustainable and measurable improvements in population health in the context of an accountable care community.

Schedule:

The work group will meet periodically at the call of the chair and as scheduled. The schedule shall include meetings which may be open to the public and announced in order to ensure public input in the process. The work group may invite presentations from organizations and individuals with expertise, and may also permit public comment. The work group may identify sub-committees which may meet more frequently to produce material for public review.

Reporting:

The Mental Health Work Group will provide its findings to the Integration Council.

Healthy Children and Families Work Group

Charter

Purpose and Scope:

The Healthy Children and Families Work Group will explore the opportunities and necessary actions for structuring a comprehensive regional approach to child well-being in Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia. The work group will produce a report that identifies the most prominent physical, behavioral and social health problems affecting children in the region and explores their causes, taking into account the social and family supports necessary to equip children to make the strongest possible start in their journey to adulthood. The findings of the work group will be a source of input into the development of the proposed Newco's ten (10) year comprehensive community health improvement plan.

Deliverables:

The work group will produce a document for consideration by Newco that shall consider, but is not limited to, the following:

- Identify the top physical, behavioral and social health and well-being problems experienced by children in the region and explore their root causes;
- Identify gaps in education achievement among children in the region, assessing the impact of these gaps on their ability to thrive as healthy adults. Identify opportunities for how Newco can contribute to improving education achievement, particularly in the area of literacy and basic skills;
- Produce an inventory and gap analysis of past and current efforts that address regional:
 - Pediatric physical and behavioral health services and accessibility;
 - Health and social support services available for children with special needs, such developmental disabilities and physical limitations; and
 - Social service and family and parenting supports available in the region (such as nurse family partnership, Healthy Start, etc.);
- Identify evidence-based best and promising practices in use regionally or elsewhere that may be replicated to improve children's health and well-being;
- Assess the relative ability of the region's public and private sector to improve health outcomes by addressing root causes through evidence-based best and promising practices;
- Identify opportunities to enhance children's health research, training, education, and service provision through existing partnerships with East Tennessee State University and potential new partnerships; and

- Prioritize improvement goals according to their relative importance to children's health and well-being, the commonality of impact across the region, the disparate impact on disadvantaged populations, and the ability of the community to reasonably make an impact on the goals in a sustainable timeframe.

The work group's report will focus on achieving sustainable and measurable improvements in population health in the context of an accountable care community, with prioritization on those areas most likely to be high impact in the region.

Schedule:

The work group will meet periodically at the call of the chair and as scheduled. The schedule shall include meetings which may be open to the public and announced in order to ensure public input in the process. The work group may invite presentations from organizations and individuals with expertise, and may also permit public comment. The work group may identify sub-committees which may meet more frequently to produce material for public review.

Reporting:

The Healthy Children and Families Task Force will provide its findings to the Integration Council.

Population Health and Healthy Communities Work Group

Charter

Purpose & Scope:

The Population Health and Healthy Communities Work Group will explore the opportunity and necessary actions to improve the overall health and well-being of Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia (the “Region”) by aligning and mobilizing public and private sector resources – schools, businesses, civic and faith groups, health care providers, government – around a core set of community health improvement goals in the areas of both health care delivery and social determinants of health. Examples of health care delivery goals may include, but not be limited to: increased vaccinations and screenings, improved integration of primary care, dental and mental health services, improved access to services for persons with addictive disorders, and reductions in hospital acquired conditions. Examples of social determinant goals may include, but not be limited to: reduction in teen smoking or pregnancy, improvement of literacy and high school completion, enhanced coordination of services for low-income elderly, or improvements in the variables leading to type 2 diabetes in children.

The findings of the work group will be a source of input into the development of a ten (10) year comprehensive community health improvement plan to be adopted by the new proposed regional health system (“Newco”).

Deliverables:

The work group will produce a document for consideration by Newco that shall consider, but is not limited to, the following:

- Identify top health problems in the region and their root causes – both clinical and social – and the health and economic impact of these problems on various public- and private-sector organizations and on disadvantaged populations;
- Identify priorities for coordination of health services for the elderly, including opportunities to coordinate state and federal programs;
- Inventory past and current efforts in the region to address these problems and their root causes;
- Assess the relative ability of the public and private sector to improve health outcomes by addressing root causes – either individually or collectively – through implementation of evidence-based best practices;
- Prioritize improvement goals according to their relative importance to the community's health, the commonality of impact across sectors or the disparate impact on disadvantaged populations, and the ability of the community to reasonably make an impact on the goals in a sustainable timeframe;

- Identify community governance structures used elsewhere in the U.S. that have successfully implemented a health improvement strategy, and contemplate how those examples might inform a culturally appropriate structure for our region;
- Identify opportunities for the East Tennessee State University Academic Health Sciences Center and other academic, business, government and community partners to collaborate with Newco in the creation of an accountable care community.

Schedule:

The Population Health and Healthy Communities Work Group will meet periodically at the call of the chair and as scheduled. The schedule shall include meetings which may be open to the public and announced in order to ensure public input in the process. The work group may invite presentations from organizations and individuals with expertise, and may also permit public comment. The work group may identify sub-committees which may meet more frequently to produce material for public review.

Reporting:

The Population Health and Healthy Communities Work Group will provide its findings to the Integration Council.

Research and Academics Work Group

Charter

Purpose and Scope:

The Research and Academics Work Group will explore the opportunity to improve health and economic growth in Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia (the “Region”) by enhancing professional recruitment and research-based funding under a new research and academics partnering strategy between the new proposed regional health system (“Newco”) and regional academic institutions, in particular East Tennessee State University. The findings of the work group will be a source of input into the development of Newco’s ten (10) year comprehensive community health improvement plan.

Deliverables:

The work group will produce a document for consideration by Newco that shall consider, but is not limited to, the following:

- Identify the fields in which academic institutions, in particular ETSU, can make superior contributions in research and medical education by collaborating with Newco and other community partners;
- Evaluate any institutional changes needed for ETSU and other academic institutions to support the collaborative opportunity with Newco to bolster academics and research;
- Identify institutional changes needed or structures required at Newco to support new and expanded research and undergraduate and graduate medical education opportunities with ETSU and other academic institutions;
- Identify potential long-term strategic research initiatives for Newco, ETSU, other academic institutions, and community collaboratives and estimate ways in which these research initiatives would enhance faculty recruitment and economic growth of the region; and
- Identify opportunities for Newco and its research partners to interface with an effort to create an accountable care community – in particular, what infrastructure is needed in order to use the benefit of research to assist with the priorities identified in the accountable care community model.

Schedule:

The work group will meet periodically at the call of the chair and as scheduled. The schedule shall include meetings which may be open to the public and announced in order to ensure public input in the process. The work group may invite presentations from organizations and individuals with expertise, and may also permit public comment. The work group may identify sub-committees which may meet more frequently to produce material for public review.

Reporting:

The Research and Academics Work Group will provide its findings to the Integration Council.