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About the Initiative

In 2015, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) awarded the State of Michigan \$70 million over 4 years to test and implement an innovative model for delivering and paying for health care in the state. A major focus area has been strengthening connections among providers of clinical care and community-based organizations that address social determinants of health through the creation of Community Health Innovation Region (CHIRs).

Contact Us

Questions can be sent to:
CHIR@mail.mihealth.org

Links

[SIM Initiative Website](#)

[SIM Population Health Webpage](#)

[SIM Care Delivery Webpage](#)

Welcome to the December edition of the SIM Community Health Innovation (CHIR) Newsletter. The newsletter provides updates on SIM activities and highlights regional CHIR work and successes. It also provides resources to inform the continued development and implementation of CHIR work.

Upcoming Action Items

CHIRs

- Monthly Status Report** - CHIRs are to submit their status report by **December 14**. The following month's status report will be due **January 12**. Please use the following [template](#) and upload to your "CHIR Reporting/Status Reports" folder.

State SIM CHIR Team

- Unrestriction Requests** - All submitted Unrestriction Requests have been processed by the SIM Team and have been submitted to CMS for their review.
- Data Request Forms** - Thank you to those who submitted data request forms; the SIM Team is reviewing these requests. You will receive updates as your request moves through the approval process.

Program News and Updates

November TA Session

The November technical assistance conference call focused on understanding community benefit. Non-profit hospitals are required to make investments that benefit the communities they serve to maintain their tax-exempt status. Vondie Woodbury provided an overview and history of community benefit, including how expectations regarding community health needs assessment (CHNA) and planning under the Affordable Care Act have shifted how hospitals invest their community benefit dollars. Vondie presented the components of the community benefit framework, the criteria for community benefit spending, and the potential connection between community benefit investment and the work of the CHIRs. The PowerPoint [slides](#) for the presentation can be found in the Resources folder on SharePoint.

CHIR Time Table

The CHIR Time Table has been revised in order to reflect the most recent updates to project deadlines. The [Time Table](#) can be found on SharePoint.

State of Michigan Holiday Office Closings

The State of Michigan Offices will be closed on the following days:

- December 24th – 25th
- December 31st – January 1st

MiCHIR Learning Community

The ABLe Change Team at Michigan State University has been hard at work developing an online collaboration site for use by key CHIR stakeholders. The first phase of this site can now be accessed and used for information sharing and collaboration within and between CHIR's. To access this site, please reach out to the SIM Team via the CHIR mailbox with a list of identified users. When submitting user information, please provide the individual's name, email address, and the organization to which they are affiliated.

PCMH Regional Dashboards

The Michigan Data Collaborative (MDC) generates quarterly quality and utilization measures dashboards for the SIM PCMH initiative. SIM program staff are working with MDC to develop region level dashboards of PCMH quality and utilization measures and plan to make them available the first quarter of 2018. The visualizations will help CHIRs understand performance of their SIM PCMH participating practices (aggregated for the region) and highlight collaboration opportunities on areas that need improvement. Additional information regarding dashboard content and access will be provided in early 2018.

Bright Spots

Advancing Equity through Health Impact Assessments: A Planning & Evaluation Framework

A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a systematic process that compiles information from multiple data sources to identify the potential risks and benefits of a proposed policy, plan or program on the health of a population. This process brings together a variety of stakeholders, highlights potential health benefits for the community, and considers mitigating strategies to address negative consequences.

The Society of Practitioners of Health Impact Assessment created a Planning and Evaluation Framework for Equity in Health Impact Assessment (HIA) practice. The framework has four equity-related components:

1. Ensuring the HIA process and products focus on equity.
2. Ensuring the HIA process builds the capacity of communities facing health inequities to engage in future HIAs and in decision-making more generally.
3. Using the HIA process to shift power to the benefit of communities facing inequities.
4. Using the HIA to reduce health inequities and inequities in the social and environmental determinants of health.

HIA practitioners are encouraged to advance [this](#) conceptual framework by using the HIA Equity Planning tool and the HIA Equity Evaluation Tool. The report is also available at michirlearning.org.

Promoting Equity through the Practice of Health Impact Assessment

PolicyLink shared a report on Promoting Equity through the Practice of Health Impact Assessments. The report provided an overview on the importance of Health Impact Assessment. The tool is useful for understanding the health implications for communities of proposed policies, plans, or projects. This report highlighted two key points:

1. HIA practitioners and equity advocates can ensure that the practice of HIA maintains a strong focus on promoting equity; and
2. HIA can be used as a tool to support equitable decision-making processes and outcomes.

The authors provided specific strategies for implementing each principle, key challenges, and suggestions on how to overcome challenges. Two case studies were provided as examples. The report is available on michirlearning.org.

Resources

The Four I's for Health Equity

National Quality Forum (NQF) is a nonpartisan, membership-based organization that works to catalyze improvements in healthcare. In their September 2017 [report](#), "A Roadmap for Promoting Health Equity and Eliminating Disparities: The Four I's for Health Equity", NQF presents a roadmap for reducing health and healthcare disparities through performance measurement and associated policy levers.

For More Information

www.michigan.gov/SIM | CHIR@mail.mihealth.org

