Community Health Workers for Seniors - A New Model

Jewish Healthcare Foundation
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Let’s Go Back in Time … 1970s/1980s
What We (In Aging) Were Reading

Too Old, Too Sick, Too Bad: Nursing Homes in America
Moss, Frank

The Nursing Home Tragedy
Bruce C. Vladeck

2015 Soaring into the Future
Seeking New Horizons in Aging and Philanthropy
#GIAG2015
The Warning of the 1990s

The Graying of America:
65+ Population 1950–2030

Source: Health, United States, 1990, U.S. Bureau of the Census

2015 Soaring into the Future
Seeking New Horizons in Aging and Philanthropy

Tweet about the Conference
#GIAGing2015
What Did We Think was Needed?

A NEW PARADIGM OF AGING

FROM

Illness and Debilitation
Isolation and Loneliness
Unnecessary Institutionalization

TO

Wellness and Disability Prevention
Protection and Security
Community Involvement and Independence
Here’s What We Heard/Hear:

• “They better fix this system”
• “That’s not how I expect to live”
• “80 is the new 60”
• “60 is the new 40”
Current Condition

Caregivers, Social Services, and Primary Care

ER, ICU, SNF
COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS:
Getting the Job Done in Health Care Delivery

October 20, 2014 | 8:00 AM – 3:15 PM EST
Learning Center, Association of American Medical Colleges
Washington, D.C.

Join the conversation online @NEHI_News
Evidence in the U.S.

- 3:1 return-on-investment for helping at-risk seniors stay in their homes
- Review of CHW studies shows:
  - **Diabetes**: improved A1c levels
  - **Asthma**: reduced hospital admissions
  - **Hypertension**: increased follow-up appointments
  - **Cancer**: better adherence for breast, cervical, and colorectal screenings
  - **Immunizations**: increased childhood immunizations rates
CHW Pennsylvania Policy Summit

The summit on April 22, 2015 in Harrisburg aimed to create a Pennsylvania action plan for policies related to training, certifying, and reimbursing CHWs.
Site Visit at the University of South Wales

- Attracts healthcare support workers from the workforce
- Programs designed based on the needs of employers
  - Dementia Studies
  - Health and Social Care Management
  - Healthcare Nursing Support Worker (includes geriatric and mental health competencies)
- Bridges education and practice
- Offers different exit points, so students leave with at least a certificate
What Seniors Face

LOSS OF CONTROL

DECREASED ENERGY

FINANCIAL WORRIES

LOSS OF INDEPENDENCE
Caregiver stress
Loss of purpose
Lack of family support
Isolation
Unclear hospital discharge instructions
Decrease in functional abilities
Inadequate transportation
Polypharmacy

Red Flags for Institutionalization
Our Multi Pronged Strategy

• Harnessing Data for predictive modelling
• Developing a new community-based team member: Community Health Workers
  – Trained, credentialed and paid
  – Connected to the health and social service system
Our Next Steps: CHW Champions Program

- Grant from JHF to train CHWs to work with seniors in the community who are at risk of hospital and nursing home admissions and readmissions (2015 – 2017)
- Developing curriculum and a funding model to be tested in PA

Tipping the Scales with CHWs and Predictive Modeling
Next Steps: Collaborating with Foundations

- Nine foundations from the PA Health Funders Collaborative (PHFC) attended the April CHW Policy Summit in Harrisburg with health plans, providers, and policymakers and have formed a workgroup.
- JHF staff initiated a conversation with national foundations about CHW best practices and current needs at the March 2015 Grantmakers in Health (GIH) Conference that will be continued at a special intensive at GIH 2016 on March 11.
- Working with new MLTSS model in PA to finalize and introduce curriculum that adds CHW to workforce – trained and paid!