Social Care Approach to Substance Abuse & Homelessness

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Introduction

Adventist Health Glendale (AGHL) and HC2 strategies and their executive leadership team have cultivated strategies to better target the Whole Person Care approach within the Cal AIM initiative. At AGHL, the goal was to integrate a social care approach to health services and delivery as it pertains to mental health needs of high school students, patients facing homelessness, and substance abuse navigation (SUN). The social care approach emphasizes the importance of upstream interventions to address social determinants of health (SDOH) as a means of promoting better health outcomes and bolster the overall wellbeing of the patient.

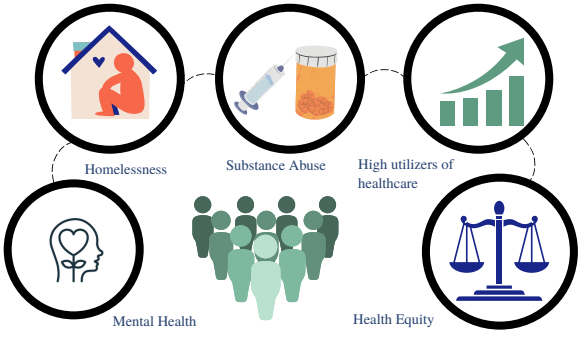

Figure 1

Methods

Expand community partnerships between clinicians, navigators and social services to improve:

- Continuity of care
- Additional patient follow-up after discharge
- Offer support to patients who frequently return all in efforts to reduce readmission, cost of care, patient outcomes and cultural stigmas

Results

Analyzed the application of a social care approach to the projects via–

- Developed a process map for both projects (ie Figure 2)
- Developed partner mapping that lists all critical the social services
- 76% of patients in homeless project were housed post discharge
- 171 SUN consultants

Jumping midstream enabled me to assist with the maturing projects and help clearly define the work flows, process measures, and care delivery model to improve efficiency.

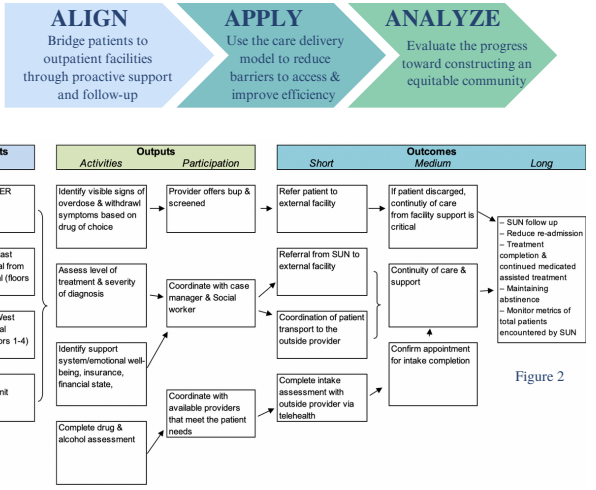

Figure 2

Conclusion

The adoption and integration of the social care approach ultimately bolsters stakeholder support and strengthens community networks that are centered in acknowledging the importance of SDOH in promoting health equity.

Acknowledgements

Thank you AGHL and HC2 for offering me this fortunate opportunity to unite my personal values and robust passion for public health into a proactive means of application via developing evaluative and monitoring tools to help the care teams become more successful in serving their patients.