



Health Center Controlled Networks

The Health Center Controlled Networks (HCCN) are networks of health centers working together to improve access to care, enhance quality of care, and achieve cost efficiencies through the provision of management, financial, administrative, technological and clinical support services. Most HCCNs are heavily engaged in clinical quality improvement and technology services.

Networks have great flexibility in determining their activities. Each network is unique, depending on its state environment, marketplace, collaborators, needs, and interests. In different marketplaces, issues such as demand and levels of managed care, composition of collaborators, and/or unique health care delivery characteristics impact function and composition.

Funding

In FY 2010, HRSA awarded \$114.2 million in funding to support the Health Center Controlled Networks Program.

Examples

Community Health Center Network - Alameda, CA

This network provides integrated managed care and management services for their seven member health centers including: joint contracting with their Medicaid managed care and SCHIP HMOs; and operational functions such as claims, membership, utilization management, and pay-for-performance. Other services include clinical quality improvement, health information technology strategic planning, CHCN Web Portal, and CHCN University, a training institute for CHC staff.

Key Accomplishments

- Instituted a quality improvement program using their data warehouse, manual audits, and disease registries, with results exceeding national benchmarks
- Developed CHCN University, a training institute for all staff at their CHCs;
- Provides leadership to the CHCN Health Information Technology workgroups which strategize on the purchase and adoption of HIT tools for their CHCs.

CHC Collaborative Ventures, Inc. - Tucson, AZ

The network supports 12 HRSA-funded health centers in improving their daily business infrastructure through network systems, collaboration, and sharing. Activities include: software development; group purchasing; human resources management; development of new clinical services such as pharmacy and radiology; and deployment of business intelligence software for improved day to day management, budgeting, and controlling at the cost center level.

Key Accomplishments

- Deployment of Medicaid insurance eligibility software providing screening for over 50,000 members over a 5-year period
- Improved billing and collection processes
- Developmental support to individual CHCs adding pharmacy services
- Ongoing human resources management network services in support of the 12 CHCs.

More information:

<http://www.hrsa.gov/healthit/toolbox/HealthITAdoptiontoolbox/OpportunitiesCollaboration/develophccn.html>