

Partnering to improve health for all.

Foundation *for* Healthy Communities

e-News February 2020

Foundation for Healthy Communities Releases 2020 - 2022 Strategic Plan

On behalf of our board and staff, we're excited to release our 2020-2022 strategic plan, which builds upon the mission of improving health and health care for all in New Hampshire. The Foundation for Healthy Communities' 2020-2022 Strategic Plan, ***Bridging into the Community***, embraces FHC's priority to improve connections and collaborations between health care systems and community partners that impact upstream social determinants for better, and more equitable, health for all in New Hampshire.

We extend our deepest gratitude to those who participated in this process and look forward to working with our partners to implement the key strategies. Our new strategic plan is a recommitment to our collaborative engagement with an emphasis on continuing to build bridges into communities in New Hampshire. Relationships play a critical role in helping to advance health improvement throughout the state, and our success is contingent upon the active engagement of our partners working toward our common goals.



Peter Ames, MPH
Executive Director

[Read the Foundation's Strategic Plan](#)



[Learn more & register today!](#)

You're Invited! Emerging Focus on Age Friendly Health Systems

As hospitals and health systems prepare to care for our aging population, many are using the Age-Friendly Health Systems initiative to provide care focused around the 4Ms- What Matters Most, Medication, Mentation, and Mobility. Learn how these are being implemented in NH and beyond, and can increase patient safety and outcomes, increase patient and family engagement, reduce harm from falls, and decrease hospitalizations.

This conference will provide attendees practical and innovative strategies for implementation. While there is a special focus on falls prevention and mobility, the conference will also address how all of the 4Ms interconnect. This event is being held in partnership between the FHC Partnership for Patients & Northern New England Geriatric Education Center in collaboration with the NH Falls Task Force.

New Hampshire Hospitals Provide Over \$446 Million in Community Investments

Foundation releases statewide **Community Benefit Report: An Overview of Hospital Charitable Activities**



New Hampshire hospitals provided more than \$446 million in community benefits, according to the **Statewide Community Benefit Report: An Overview of Hospital Activities** recently released by the Foundation for Healthy Communities.

Hospital community benefits programs are designed to provide increased access to care and address population health inequalities for vulnerable patients. This includes financial assistance provided, unreimbursed costs of patient care, free or low-cost immunizations, charitable contributions, family support services, health education and community building activities. Community benefits include:

- Health services for vulnerable or under-served people
- Financial or in-kind support of public health programs, such as management of chronic diseases like asthma and diabetes
- Donations of funds, property, or other resources that contribute to a community priority, such as obesity, substance abuse, or health care services for the homeless
- Health care cost containment activities, like free health education programs that can help people manage their conditions without the need for more costly services
- Health screening and prevention services

The statewide community benefits report is published annually by the Foundation and its affiliated organization, the New Hampshire Hospital Association, to demonstrate the impact of New Hampshire hospitals and health systems beyond the traditional hospital care setting. The 2019 report represents data collected fiscal year 2017 data from 24 non-profit New Hampshire hospitals as they reported to the IRS to quantify hospital contributions, such as unreimbursed costs, uncompensated care and other free, discounted and unique programs that are critical to the health of New Hampshire communities.

[Download the 2019 Community Benefit Report](#)

Granite State Health Care Coalition Conference Save the Date: May 19, 2020



Chris K. Lake, PhD

The Granite State Health Care Coalition will be hosting their 2020 Conference, **Bridging the Gap between Partners**, on May 19th at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord, and is excited to bring a variety of speakers that will share their expertise and lessons learned from real-world events that can help strengthen emergency preparedness efforts across the healthcare continuum in New Hampshire through strategic partnerships and collaboration.

Hospitals, first responders and coalitions have contributed to the advancing of quality care, disaster planning and the hospital's mission. This collaboration must now include mass shootings and acts of terrorism. On October 1, 2017, Las Vegas experienced the worst mass shooting in American history. During his keynote

Registration information for the 2020 GSHCC Conference will be available in March, stay tuned for additional details!

session, *A Day Like No Other: Experiences and Lessons Learned During the Las Vegas Mass Shooting*, Chris K. Lake, PhD, Executive Director of Community Resilience with the Nevada Hospital Association, will share the lessons learned by hospitals, first responders and providers who provided care to the 800 injured patients. While the scale may be different in varying communities, the impact, planning and recovery efforts remain the same. Attendees will learn how to identify critical elements of community emergency and communications plans; recognize the importance of emergency preparedness training and testing; and predict the community response and anticipate the needs for an organized recovery process.

[Read Dr. Lake's case study on the Las Vegas Shooting](#)

Improving Patient Safety & Quality of Care Across New Hampshire

The Foundation for Healthy Communities continues its work supporting hospitals in their efforts to improve patient safety and quality of care, and to reduce health-related complications, health care inequity and unnecessary readmissions.

Leading the way to a healthier New Hampshire, hospitals focused on patient falls, adverse drug events, pressure injuries, healthcare-associated infections, readmissions, antibiotic stewardship and workplace safety through the implementation of best practices to **reduce hospital acquired conditions by 20% and readmissions by 12%** from initial levels of the **Partnership for Patients** initiative. Patient family engagement is used as a cross-cutting strategy to improve quality, safety and the patient experience.

In addition, we were able to secure permanent standing in state law for the **NH Health Care Quality & Safety Commission**, a critical resource for hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers that promotes accountability, cultures of safety and the sharing of best practices and prevention strategies.



Since 2016, New Hampshire hospitals have avoided **2,150** patient harm events and achieved **\$18.7M** in healthcare cost savings.

Foundation's Population Health Efforts Recognized by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement

Hospitals across New Hampshire have come together in an unprecedented effort to collaborate and advance population health, using tools and resources from the Pathways to Population Health (P2PH) movement.

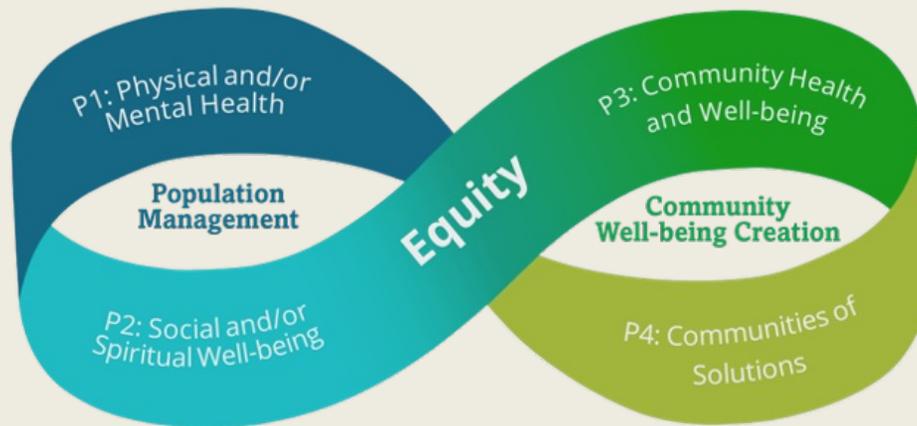
The Foundation for Healthy Communities, conveners of a Population Health Peer Group, began this experiment to align population health efforts and move beyond the walls of individual hospitals to improve health, well-being and equity in the state. Contrary to the typical competitive, siloed nature of hospitals serving overlapping populations, this group saw opportunity in lining up the assets and priorities across their respective systems.

The Peer Group utilized the P2PH Framework and Compass to create shared definitions, understand their current state (individually and collectively), set population health goals, and undertake high-leverage actions. These actions included working more intentionally with people with lived experience, testing methods for building will around population health, and connecting assets across the state.

The P2PH Framework helps define key concepts and terms; describes four portfolios of work that contribute to improvement; and identifies the levers vital to accelerating progress. By

balancing each of the four portfolios, with a goal of equity at the core, organizations can chart a path to meaningful and sustainable change. The P2PH Compass helps catalogue current population health efforts and identify opportunities to make practical and sustainable advances.

The Pathways to Population Health (P2PH) Framework



[Read the IHI's blog highlighting the Foundation's Case Study](#)

Foundation Welcomes New Board Members

The Foundation for Healthy Communities welcomed three additional members to its Board of Trustees at its recent meeting in January. Appointed to the Board of Trustees terms were Fuad Khan, MD, Director, Behavioral Health at Wentworth-Douglass Hospital; Betsy Rhynhart, Vice President, Population Health at Concord Hospital; Sue Mooney, MD, President & CEO at Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital; James Culhane, President & CEO at Lake Sunapee VNA & Hospice; and Susan Walsh, Strategic Business Lead for New Hampshire at Harvard Pilgrim Health Care.

In addition, the membership also elected new officers for the Board of Trustees, with Kris Hering, Chief Nursing Officer at Spaulding Memorial Hospital announced as Chair, replacing immediate past chair Helen Taft, and Jay Couture, Executive Director of Seacoast Mental Health Center appointed as Vice Chair.

For more information on the Foundation's Board of Trustees, please visit us [online](#).

Upcoming Events

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES TRAINING

The Foundation for Healthy Communities is offering day-long training workshops for professionals in health care settings whose work includes facilitating discussions with patients in completing Advance Directives or requires the communication skills to help healthcare providers initiate POLST conversations, making informed end-of-life decisions and creating POLST plans.

Advance Care Planning - April 20th
POLST Provider Training - April 22nd

REVENUE INTEGRITY TRAINING FOR CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS

Partnering with HCPro, the Foundation for Healthy Communities is hosting a **Revenue Integrity and Chargemaster Boot Camp for Critical Access Hospitals** Monday April 27th through Thursday, April 30th. This advanced four-day course is intended for Critical Access Hospital Revenue Cycle professionals, with registration fees covered by the *Small Hospital Improvement Program* grant.

[Learn More & Register Today](#)



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