Greetings from the Adolescent and Young Adult Health National Resource Center (AYAH Center)

Your friends and colleagues are pleased to be sharing our monthly newsletters with you. Throughout the year, we will use this newsletter to:

- Provide information about trending topics in adolescent and young adult health and health care
- Share our resources, including resources from the Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (CoIIN)
- Keep you up-to-date about upcoming events related to adolescent and young adult health and health care

To subscribe to the newsletter, email Karissa Charles at kcharles@amchp.org. We welcome your ideas and feedback, and you are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Expanding Clinic Level Partnerships in Mississippi

Mississippi’s CoIIN Team has been working with a school-based health clinic at Lanier High School to increase the youth-appropriateness of the clinical environment, market the clinical offerings and improve clinical practices around confidentiality with the end goal of increasing the quality and uptake of preventive well-visits. With a lot of work accomplished and many lessons learned, the team decided that it would begin the process for scaling its work while also moving into the second phase of the Lanier program.

In an effort to start on both objectives, the Mississippi team conducted a two-day site visit along with national partners from AMCHP, NIPN and the National School Based Health Alliance. The first day focused directly on the collaborative work completed by the Mississippi CoIIN team and the staff at the Lanier High School Teen Wellness Clinic. Visitors and the team toured the Lanier High School Teen Wellness Clinic to view the new additions made possible by this project, including postings of confidentiality statements, signage with pictures of the staff, a school-spirited new clinic logo and a youth-friendly makeover. While at the clinic, partners heard students share how the improvements at the clinic were positively impacting the environment of the high school. The second half of the day centered on the next steps the Mississippi CoIIN team would focus on at Lanier. The clinic team will...
Strategies to Engage Important Stakeholders to Coordinate Preventive Care and Screenings for Adolescents and Young Adults

News You Can Use

- The National Academy of State Health Policy (NASHP) released the recording of a webinar that highlighted how several states addressed access to care for youth through their health system transformation efforts. Check out the article and webinar link here.

- In response to the possible loss of federal funding for the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2017, NASHP’s new brief examines potential options and policy questions for improving exchange coverage for children in terms of both affordability and pediatric benefit adequacy. The brief links are available here.

- The Institute for Family Health has been selected to train community health centers in New York City, Westchester and Rockland counties to implement the Advanced Primary Care (APC) model as part of the New York State Practice Transformation Technical Assistance Services program. See the full press release here.

Meaningful Stakeholder Engagement for Collaborative Solutions: Ohio’s Progress

Increasing Ohio’s current rate of annual adolescent well-visits and improving the quality of adolescent health care overall are priorities within the state’s new Maternal and Child Health Block Grant. To achieve these goals, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) hosted a strategy session in October 2016, meant to foster collaboration and inform the development of a five-year strategic plan. Nearly 40 Ohio stakeholders took part in the meeting, representing public and private insurance; clinical providers and staff; government agencies; and community/support agencies.

ODH partners with the Ohio Adolescent Health Partnership (OAHP) – a statewide public health partnership – to reach diverse stakeholders. The partnership aims to reach these stakeholders through a cross-systems approach to improve adolescent health by integrating strategies from the October session across key issue areas identified in the OAHP’s strategic plan.

To learn more about the information presented in this article, contact Danielle Lampton, Bureau Director for Adolescent Health, Mississippi State Department of Health at Danielle.Lampton@msdh.ms.gov, or Jitoria Jones, Health Program Specialist at Jitoria.Jones@msdh.ms.gov
Strategies to Engage Important Stakeholders to Coordinate Preventive Care and Screenings for Adolescents and Young Adults

Laura Rooney, the Ohio adolescent health program manager, noted that intentionally seeking out broad perspectives for the past October strategy session made it possible for the Title V/MCH Program to move Ohio’s AWV discussion beyond any one “angle” and to envision and create a more global perspective on sustainable system improvements for adolescent health care.

The strategy session began with an educational component on what the AWV is and why it’s important. This was presented by adolescent medicine specialists and pediatricians from across the state, including the Children’s Hospitals in Cincinnati, Dayton and Akron, which have also been instrumental in the OAHP for championing collaboration around adolescent health with other providers and helping establish a close working relationship with the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Following the educational component, stakeholder “affinity groups” rotated through World Café-style facilitated discussions on opportunities and challenges related to adolescent preventive care – allowing each affinity group to share its perspective and then hear other perspectives.

Through ODH’s work with the OAHP, it has often found that a spark of innovation or thinking-shift occurs simply by creating safe spaces for people to share their perspective on complex issues. Dr. Michele Dritz, a Dayton-based pediatrician and adolescent medicine specialist and founding member of the OAHP, noted that she could almost see a lightbulb moment of understanding flicker on attendees’ faces within a few minutes of hearing new perspectives in the October session.

The session generated numerous opportunities for increasing and improving AWVs in Ohio that will feed into the work of the Title V/MCH strategic planning as well as the work of the OAHP. The session also demonstrated challenges for further exploration such as the need to engage broader stakeholders including policymakers, providers of medical training, parents and youth themselves; continuing to address concerns over confidentiality (balancing the needs and rights of adolescents with those of their parents, as well as safeguarding potential leaks such as insurance “Election of Benefits” statements); and finding ways to build skills among adolescents and providers to have the conversations that can keep young people healthy.

For more information regarding this program, contact Laura Rooney, MPH, Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Maternal, Child and Family Health, at Laura.Rooney@odh.ohio.gov.
Strategies to Engage Important Stakeholders to Coordinate Preventive Care and Screenings for Adolescents and Young Adults

Save the Date

- **National Trans Conference**
  Join other providers around the country as they learn how to build capacity through medical cultural competency to interact with and medically treat transgender individuals with care and respect.

- **Annual Research & Policy Conference on Child, Adolescent and Young Adult Behavioral Health**
  Mar. 5-8, 2017. The Department of Child & Family Studies. Tampa, Fla.
  A conference focused on cutting-edge research and best policy practices for child, adolescent and young adult behavioral health. Since 1988, the annual conference has brought together national and international participants to dialogue about important issues impacting the behavioral health of children, youth and families.

Latest Resources from AYAH Center

- **CDC Grand Rounds: Adolescence – Preparing for Lifelong Health and Wellness** (CDC MMWR): NAHIC/AYAH-NRC co-project director, Dr. Claire Brindis, discusses public health’s role in understanding and addressing adolescent health care, including strategies and approaches to engage adolescents in settings where they live, learn and receive health care.

- **Establishing a Child Health Improvement Partnership: A How-to Guide** (NIPN): A complete guide on establishing a regional collaboration of public and private partnerships to improve the quality of children’s health care ("Improvement Partnership"). This includes information on creating a plan, cultivating successful partnerships, obtaining financial support and forming an advisory group. This resource also provides lessons learned from nine states that have implemented the Improvement Partnership approach.

- **Coordinating Efforts across Title V and Title X Programs** (AMCHP) is a case study that highlights important components for successful collaboration, roles of performance measures, sustainability and state examples of program collaboration to provide preventive services and align efforts to accomplish common goals. Overlapping goals include preventing HIV/STIs; reducing teen pregnancy; increasing access to preventive health, including contraceptive counseling and services; and improving smoking cessation and optimal birth spacing.

- **From the President July/August PULSE** (AMCHP) is a short narrative from AMCHP’s president that highlights the importance of strategic, non-traditional partnerships to identify gaps and barriers but also to present clinical and non-clinical solutions that work.

See what resources the AYAH Center has for you on Stakeholder Engagement!
Strategies to Engage Important Stakeholders to Coordinate Preventive Care and Screenings for Adolescents and Young Adults

Save the Date

- **2017 SOPHE Student Case Study Competition**
  The SOPHE Case Study Competition is designed to give undergraduate and graduate health education majors the opportunity to display expertise they have developed during their time as students. Teams of two to three students are challenged to solve a real-world health problem using the competencies required of a school or community health educator.

- **National Conference on Health Disparities**
  May 3-7, 2017 New Orleans, La.
  Participate with health professionals around the country to learn ways to reduce health disparities through sustaining and strengthening healthy communities.

Quick Links

- AMCHP
- NAHIC
- NIPN
- SAHRC

CoIIN Corner

Stay Informed with Our State-by-State CoIIN Highlights!

**Iowa**

Our Iowa team has been gaining momentum in both its clinical and community-level QI activities. Within the clinical demonstration sites, staff has been implementing components of their improvement plan to ensure that the physical environment of the facility and the care delivered by providers and staff are youth-centered and aligned with best practices. Coming off the heels of their focus group findings, members of the Iowa CoIIN Team recently met with AYAH NRC staff to strategize and put a plan into action on creating and disseminating specific messaging on a broad level to both parents/caregivers and AYAs themselves on the importance and value of preventive services. This plan entails a communications strategy, media plan for development of materials and an evaluation plan to assess the efforts and outcomes.

**Mississippi**

In October, the Mississippi CoIIN team hosted a stakeholder meeting to share CoIIN experiences from the pilot quality improvement program in the Lanier High School Based Health Centers (SBHCs), create a shared idea of youth-centered care and explore opportunities to enhance and expand adolescent health care quality improvement efforts across the state, especially among SBHCs. Interestingly, the team used a “Next Step” activity worksheet at the conclusion of the meeting to encourage stakeholders to write down action steps they’ll take in the next month to continue to move this work forward. This activity was useful in that it helped stakeholders to think of concrete, feasible action steps to carry out in their respective organizations, and it allowed the Mississippi CoIIN team and national partners identify opportunities for immediate follow-up and collaboration to expand partnerships and efforts in the state.
Strategies to Engage Important Stakeholders to Coordinate Preventive Care and Screenings for Adolescents and Young Adults

New Mexico

New Mexico's CoIIN team continues to build on its youth-engaged outreach and communications campaign built around the "Know your Health" theme created last year. The team is now assessing and evaluating more defined messages developed by young people during New Mexico's social media campaign. Next, the CoIIN will offer young people the chance to vote on what messages should be promoted through the campaign. The campaign will then "roll out" between six and 10 specific health issue messages backed with memes, infographics and other social media promotion. Clinic providers have also expressed interest in using these materials to improve their own outreach and clinic spaces; in response, the team is working on a "Know your Health" toolkit specifically for providers.

Texas

To engage stakeholders, Texas chose to use local Youth-Adult Councils to ensure that youth, families and community partners are “at the table” as each pilot clinic focuses on access and quality of care. The councils (particularly the youth) provide expertise to improve “adolescent-friendly” aspects, appropriate youth messaging and clinic processes. The local councils meet monthly, but members have also been available as needed. Other strategies include offering trainings to youth to help engage them, working with community partners to increase youth voice beyond the clinic, attending events to promote wellness and ongoing assessment/feedback from consumers.

Vermont

The Youth Health Advisory Council (YHAC) is developing marketing materials to promote annual well-visits. The YHAC will react to sample materials compiled by the Vermont team and identify what messaging is compelling and the best modes for marketing to AYAs. The Vermont CoIIN team would like to connect the YHAC with other local and national youth councils to help build comradery, share vision and facilitate collaboration. A demonstration site in Vermont has implemented the Patient Satisfaction Survey. Patients complete the survey on an electronic device at the clinic and the clinic reports that implementation is going well.
Strategies to Engage Important Stakeholders to Coordinate Preventive Care and Screenings for Adolescents and Young Adults

From the MCH Community

See what the MCH Community has to offer on Stakeholder Engagement!

- **Protecting Confidential Health Services for Adolescents & Young Adults: Strategies & Considerations for Health Plans** is an issue brief released by The National Institute for Healthcare Management (NICHM) Foundation that reviews the legal protections in place to ensure confidential care delivery for adolescents and young adults, the effect of privacy and confidentiality concerns on the use of health services, and health insurance system barriers and other challenges to delivering confidential care to this population.

- **Integrating Public Health and Health Care: Getting Beyond the Theory** is a brief developed by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that examines practical approaches state agencies might employ to better integrate public health and health care delivery as a means of improving health and the value of health care.

- **How are CHIPRA Quality Demonstration States working to improve adolescent health care?** is a report developed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The CHIPRA Quality Demonstration program funded 18 States starting in 2010 with the goal of improving the quality of health care for youth enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP. This report highlights the lessons learned.

- **Paving the Road to Good Health Strategies for Increasing Medicaid Adolescent Well-Care Visits** is a guide developed by CMS that highlights several strategies designed to advance gains in access to and utilization of adolescent preventive health care.

- **State of Adolescent Health in Rhode Island Improving Access to Care** is a report developed by the Rhode Island Department of Health that includes research on collaborative approaches and recommendations for improving adolescent health care access in Rhode Island.

- **Transforming Adolescent Health Care Delivery in the State of Michigan: A Review of 7 Grant-Funded Demonstration Projects Transforming Care for Medically Underserved Children and Adolescents** is a review developed by Michigan Departments of Community Health and Education who undertook a critical initiative to address the provision of accessible and appropriate medical and mental health care for underserved children and youth through a three-year project.

- **Minnesota Chlamydia Screening Provider Toolkit** is a toolkit to help clinics and providers across Minnesota improve clinic processes to increase the rate of chlamydia screening in sexually active women ages 16 to 24.
Strategies to Engage Important Stakeholders to Coordinate Preventive Care and Screenings for Adolescents and Young Adults

- **Texas Health Steps** is an award-winning online program that offers free CE courses for primary care providers and other health professionals. These courses offer updated clinical, regulatory and best practice guidelines for a range of preventive health, oral health, mental health and case management topics.

- **Adolescent Health: Exploring Effective Screening and Referral Processes Webcast Education Series** aims to promote the uptake of the Affordable Care Act-covered preventive services recommended by the U.S. Preventive Services Taskforce germane to adolescents. Education sessions are designed to educate adolescent health and social service providers focusing on effective screening and referral systems within and across health and social service systems.

Upcoming Newsletter Issue

Stay tuned for our upcoming issue!

*Opportunities to Increase Access to Mental Health Services for Youth and Young Adults*

This project is supported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (grant #U45MC27709, Adolescent and Young Adult Health National Resource Center). This information or content and conclusions are those of the authors and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.