CCNC’s Practice Transformation Network Ramps Up, Reaches Recruiting Goal

CCNC’s emerging Practice Transformation Network (PTN) reached its first-year clinician recruitment goal, recruiting more than 1,300 clinicians to participate in just seven months. CCNC is one of only 29 PTNs in the nation selected late last year by CMS to participate in its Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative. During the four-year cooperative agreement, CCNC will assist approximately 3,000 clinicians in primary care practices, safety net clinics and specialty practices to expand their quality improvement capacity, improve patient care and reduce cost. CCNC instruction and tools help practices prepare for value-based care reimbursement models that are on the rise among all payers.

CCNC’s PTN coaches assist practices with quality improvement metrics and reporting, and in stepping up population health management. Practices participate in both initial and ongoing assessments to help guide and track transformation work. Recruitment for the second year of the cooperative agreement will continue to focus on small independent practices that are currently participating in the Community Care Physician Network (CCPN) and OB/GYN practices. For more information on PTN, please contact Angela Floyd

CCNC and Lower Cape Fear Network Delivering Population Health Services to New Hanover Medicare ACO

CCNC and Community Care of the Lower Cape Fear (CCLCF) have entered into an agreement to provide population health services to Physician Quality Partners (PQP), New Hanover Regional Medical Center’s Medicare ACO, aiming to help build a sustainable, cost-effective model for accountable care. CCNC’s Central Office is providing its proprietary analytics, including CareTRIAGE risk scoring and impactability scores as well as CareIMPACT dashboards. CareTRIAGE uses pharmacy data to determine risk scores for adverse events, medication problems and risk of hospital admissions and readmissions. CareIMPACT is a data visualization tool that helps organizations understand disease burden, demographics, costs, utilization patterns and care opportunities in a population. Locally, CCLCF is providing on-the-ground care management services to targeted PQP patients.

Dr. Annette DuBard, MPH, Appointed to NC Institute of Medicine

CCNC’s Chief Health Information Officer and Senior Vice President for Informatics and Evaluation Annette DuBard, MD, MPH, has been appointed to the North Carolina Institute of Medicine. Ms. Dubard has been a leader in population health management innovation with CCNC since 2006 and has played an instrumental role in the establishment of CCNC’s Informatics Center. Most recently, Dr. DuBard helped CCNC win the coveted Hearst Health Prize. As a member of the NCIOM, Dr. DuBard will serve on working groups studying complex health issues facing the state and help to develop solutions to the state’s healthcare challenges. NCIOM members also serve an advisory function at the request of the Governor, the General Assembly, and/or agencies of state government, and assist in the formation of public policy on complex healthcare issues.

In May, Dr. DuBard represented CCNC at Care Guidance 2016, a gathering of population health professionals in New Orleans that featured more than 50 informational sessions and a long list of prominent healthcare experts. Dr. DuBard spoke to an audience of more than 500 physicians, pharmacists, case managers, nurses and representatives from the healthcare information technology community. She was featured on a panel convened to share insights from the 2016 winner and finalists of the Hearst Health Prize into their successes and challenges in building highly-impactful population health programs.
CCNC’s Community Pharmacy and Community Physician Networks Continue to Grow

In addition to CCNC’s Practice Transformation Network (PTN), two other key provider networks established by CCNC continue to grow by leaps and bounds. CCNC’s Community Pharmacy Enhanced Services Network (CPESN) now consists of 261 community pharmacies across the state. CCNC created the CPESN in 2014 as part of a 3-year grant with Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation. CPESN aims to broaden capacity for care management and medication optimization services where community pharmacy is integral to the medical home. Since its creation, CPESN pharmacists have helped reduce overall healthcare costs and decrease patient hospitalizations. CCNC’s Community Care Physician Network -- a clinically-integrated network designed to help independent physicians work together to improve the quality and efficiency of patient care -- continues to attract interest as well, with 740 clinicians statewide formally agreeing to participate in the growing effort. Once fully operational, CPEN will allow independent practices to participate in Medicare ACOs, Medicare Shared Savings Plans and other new value-based care programs. CCNC’s Community Care Physician Network continues to attract interest with 740 clinicians statewide formally agreeing to participate in the growing effort. Once fully operational, CPEN will allow independent practices to participate in Medicare ACOs, Medicare Shared Savings Plans and other new value-based care programs.

Ives Named New Executive Director of Lower Cape Fear Network

Community Care of the Lower Cape Fear (CCLCF) recently named Ms. Angela Ives, RN, CCM, its new Executive Director. Ives possesses more than 30-years of healthcare experience working with the Medicaid population and has been with CCLCF since its inception in 2003. Ms. Ives has been CCLCF’s Deputy Director since 2009 and has served the network in a variety of other roles, including being a care manager and a care management coordinator. CCLCF serves nearly 100,000 Medicaid enrollees in Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover, Onslow and Pender counties.

“With Medicaid reform underway in North Carolina, CCLCF needs an experienced leader who has a vision for how the organization will build upon and develop its role in healthcare in Southeastern North Carolina,” noted CCLCF board of directors chairman Dr. James Jones Jr.

Southern Piedmont Plays Key Role in Public Conversation Exhibit

A public expression exhibition titled the “Before I Die” wall is coming to Salisbury and will be seen in high traffic facilities in Rowan and Cabarrus counties thanks to Community Care of Southern Piedmont and the Waterworks Visual Arts Center.

Designed to offer passersby the opportunity to share their concerns, perspectives, and experiences, and to provide platform to create public conversation around Advance Directives, Waterworks will construct six to seven ‘Before I Die’ public response depositories. These will be located in high traffic facilities in Rowan and Cabarrus counties, including two local hospitals, a public library, and three college campuses. Waterworks will also create four ‘Before I Die’ engagement walls within its gallery space, with viewing availability scheduled now through September 3rd, 2016. If you visit the exhibit and complete a response, please send a photo to CCNCcommunications@n3cn.org.

Thanks to Community Care of Southern Piedmont’s Palliative Care Coordinator Teresa Efird for letting us know about this project.

Mecklenburg’s Dr. John Baker Retires After Exceptional Service Career

Community Care Partners of Greater Mecklenburg (CCPGM) recently announced the retirement of long-serving Clinical Director Dr. John Baker. Dr. Baker, who served CCPGM since 2002, was honored at the last meeting of the CCNC Network and Clinical Directors with a plaque commemorating his role as a “visionary leader, physician, colleague, educator and mentor.”

Dr. Janice Huff, a family physician who joined CCPGM in 2012, will take over as Clinical Director. Dr. Huff is currently a part-time faculty member of the Family Medicine Residency Program at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte and a clinical instructor in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She also practices part-time at Presbyterian Urgent Care and Mecklenburg Health Care Center in Charlotte.