Building medical homes among multiply diagnosed HIV+ homeless persons in rural North Carolina

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North Carolina

17 Clinics: Medical-Dental- Behavioral Health (some are stand alone)

Counties served: Bladen, Sampson, Johnston, Lee, Harnett, Wake, Cumberland, New Hanover, Brunswick, Wayne, Robeson
CWH also provides 24-hour call service for patients
Positive Life

• The program receives federal and state Ryan White funding.
  – Program Manager
  – Medical Case Managers
  – Outreach
  – Data Quality Analyst
  – Transportation Coordinator
  – Bridget Counselor
  – ID Specialist

• Enrollment: 359
Barriers to Retention in HIV Care in Rural Communities

- **Housing instability**
- Transportation needs
- Substance abuse
- Mental health
- Provider discrimination

- Stigma
- Lack of financial resources
- High no-show rates
- Lost to care and out-of-care
NC REACH: SPNS Program at CWH

• Innovation
  – Build and maintain sustainable linkages to mental health, substance abuse treatment, and HIV/AIDS primary care services that meet the complex service needs and ensure adherence to treatment of HIV positive homeless or unstably housed individuals.
    • Network navigators
    • Behavioral health
    • Housing services
    • comprehensive care coordination team (Positive Life Program)
Goal: To promote and improve timely entry, engagement and retention in quality HIV primary care, psychosocial and supporting services for medically underserved HIV positive homeless and unstably housed populations in rural Southeast North Carolina.
Role of the Network Navigator

• Connecting to community housing and other support services
• Participates in the multidisciplinary clinical team
• Providing supportive services to clients to maintain housing and reduce risky behaviors.
• Making relevant supportive programs available for clients.
Case Example

- Participant A
  - 54 years old
  - African American male
  - Lives with his mother
  - No lease

- Medical
  - HIV positive with a long history of non-adherent medication use
  - History of Cancer
  - Depression
  - Cocaine dependence
Network Navigators

– Enroll the participant in CommWell Health’s inpatient substance abuse rehabilitation program for 45 days
– Advocate on participant’s behalf
– Make referrals for BH, dental, SA
– Provide transportation to all medical and social services appointments
– Housing

Participant is living in an apartment and gainfully employed. He hopes to start a non profit organization to help other individuals with HIV.
SPNS Team

• Provider Trainings
  1. Trauma Informed Care
  2. Culturally Competent
  3. Stigma
  4. Stable vs Unstable Housing vs Homeless

• PCMH Huddles

• Consumer Advisory Board
CWH Trainings

1. Cultural Sensitivity
   - Purpose: To educate and understand culture and how to be sensitive to the different cultures throughout CommWell Health and our communities.
   - **MANDATORY FOR ALL CWH STAFF**

2. Trauma Informed Care
Outreach in Community

- Faith Based Community
- Local Business
- Health Fairs
- Festivals
Contact Information

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Thank You!

✓ HRSA SPNS
✓ CommWell Health
✓ Positive Life
✓ Boston University