



# Greater Columbia ACH

## Director's Report

January 21, 2015

### 1 WE'VE BEEN DESIGNATED! 1/13/16

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Generally, 13 is not a lucky number. However, Wednesday, January 13, 2016 was the day that the Greater Columbia Community of Health was designated an Accountable Community of Health by the Health Care Authority! Many thanks to all who helped us with the many meetings, milestones, reports, and engagement activities necessary to receive this designation. The designation brings more opportunity, responsibilities, and a one-time award of \$150,000! Because these are federal funds, they require more compliance, accountability, and transparency to the public, and through the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act.

I am required to tell you that "this project was supported by Funding Opportunity Number CMS-1G1-14-001 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services."

Although the new contract continues the ACH initiative, the HCA has outlined some draft deliverables and deadlines as follows:

- Budget projections for 2016-2019 in alignment with the award amounts and flexibility provided HCA in the first quarter (1Q)
- New or updated bylaws, charters, plans and other documents to reflect development and adjustments within the governance or administrative structures and activities (1Q)
- Summary of current ACH communication and engagement activities and identified gaps that need to be addressed (1Q)
- Develop Regional Health Improvement Plan, including but not limited to information regarding regional needs and assets, ACH priorities and project(s) (2Q)
- Implementation of an action plan to address at least one "early win" (3Q)

## 2 DATA COMMITTEE MEETS WITH WHA

Following up on an offer to meet with our Data Committee, Susie Dade from the Washington Health Alliance participated in a conference call on 1/13/16. Due to the small size of some of our ACH Counties, the small number of insurance claims from which to pull random data, confidentiality issues, and the statistical reliability of using small samples, many of our Counties will not have scores in the [Community Checkup](#). Results are displayed whenever an ACH has at least 30 cases in its measure. It will be incumbent to reach out to other sources of data from the health plans, public health, and managed care organizations in our regional service area in order to get an accurate picture for our population living in these rural data deserts.

The good news is that the Center for Outcomes Research and Education (CORE) Providence is also providing data and analytic support to all ACHs under a contract with the Health Care Authority. As a member of the AIM (Analytics, Interoperability, and Measures) committee, I got a sneak preview of Tableau, an interactive data visualization product that they have produced for other clients. At this point, we are not sure what type of data analytics product will be produced for WA ACHs.

CORE is working diligently to produce a high-quality product that combines both clinical and social determinants measures within a focus area that will help us move the dial on population health.



### 3 CCHE RELEASES 1<sup>ST</sup> ACH EVALUATION

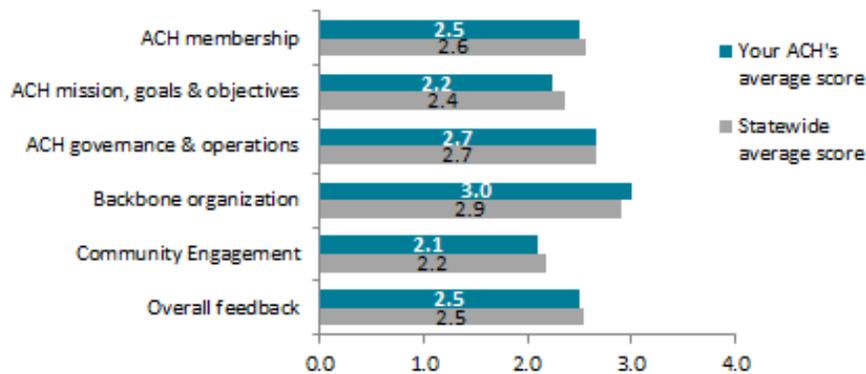
The Health Care Authority (HCA) has contracted with the Center for Community Health and Evaluation (CCHE) to evaluate all ACHs. CCHE aims to understand how ACHs come together, agree on community health priorities, engage in health improvement activities, contribute to the Healthier Washington initiative, and work towards becoming sustainable coalitions. All ACHs received their first evaluation on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The results were compiled from a survey sent out to 161 GCACH members in the fall of 2015. Our response rate of 39% (63 responded) was lower than the statewide average of 48%.

Respondents rated the ACH on 23 items in five domains of ACH functioning.

- Highest rated: Backbone provides the administrative support needed to maintain ACH operations and activities.
- Lowest rated: A realistic action plan for at least one ACH project.

#### ACH coalition function ratings

- Respondents rated 23 items in five domains of ACH coalition functioning
- Highest rated domain: Backbone organization      Lowest rated domain: Community engagement
- Highest rating: 3.0      Lowest rating: 2.1



#### Suggestions:

"As the work groups progress, being acutely aware of how each priority area work group leverages each other's work and making sure to facilitate this alignment..."

#### Concerns:

"Translating individual community and county activities on a regional scale."

## 4 COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE



The Communications Committee has approved a

basic website matrix, letterhead and business card design from P.S. Media which is the graphic arts firm under contract for the work. Also included in the professional services agreement is an overview page for GCACH, and the layout for an E-newsletter and E-bulletin.

We have obtained a website address: [greatercolumbiaaach.org](http://greatercolumbiaaach.org) through GoDaddy, and hope to preview the website at our February GCACH meetings. Included in our menu will be a feature called "Project Spotlight." Project Spotlight will highlight a specific project or program currently being delivered in our regional service area. Meant to rotate on a monthly basis, we will be asking our members to provide us with content which may include video.

Pages/sections for content will include: Calendar, Board Photos, Minutes, Readiness Proposal, Links, Contact Us, and About Us.

## 5 MEDICAID WAIVER

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The HCA is posting transformation project suggestions as they receive them. Project proposals are posted "as is" and have not been reviewed by the State. HCA will provide an update on next steps at the February 4 Medicaid Transformation webinar ([details and a registration link posted here](#)).

In the meantime, the HCA is interested in your comments regarding the proposals they have received. Please send comments to [medicaidtransformation@hca.wa.gov](mailto:medicaidtransformation@hca.wa.gov).

To see a list of the project submitted, follow this link to the Medicaid Waiver [Transformation Projects List](#).