



# News from the Collaborative

## January Featured Content



**ZACH KLEIN**  
COLUMBUS CITY ATTORNEY

### **Columbus City Attorney and CareSource Partner on City's Innovative Diversion Program for Nonviolent Offenders**

COLUMBUS – Today, Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein, the Healthcare Collaborative of Greater Columbus (HCGC) and CareSource, a nationally recognized nonprofit health plan, announced that they are partnering on the City's diversion program, which works to identify the root causes of crimes and prioritize defendants' basic needs over jail time.

Last year, the City Attorney's office, in partnership with HCGC's Central Ohio Pathways HUB model, implemented the nation's first-of-its-kind diversion program to connect those accused of nonviolent misdemeanor offenses to community services. The City aims to understand the underlying reasons for a crime and then develops individualized plans to get offenders help, rather than sending them to jail. Once defendants complete the program, facilitated by HUB Care Coordination Agencies and Community Health Workers, their court records are sealed.

"By partnering with HCGC's Central Ohio Pathways HUB and now CareSource, we're streamlining our successful program and connecting defendants to programs that may already be available to them in order to address the challenges that led them to nonviolent crime," said Klein. "Our diversion program increases community safety, seeks justice for victims and the public and provides defendants the tools they need to change their behaviors in lieu of incarceration."

"Expansion of these services across all of municipal court with support from Wellness First, LLC and Franklin County Public Health, two coordination agencies operating within the Central Ohio Pathways HUB model, as well as a close working relationship for CareSource clients is exciting," said Jenelle Hoseus, HUB Executive Director. "The Central Ohio Pathways HUB model takes all clients in our work, regardless of their insurance provider. But we appreciate more than ever the commitment CareSource is showing to this program and this population, and City Attorney Klein's

leadership continues to make a difference for so many. Together, we are all aligning risks people face with needed support services.”

The City Attorney’s Office, the HUB and CareSource will work together to connect individuals in the diversion program with resources related to health care, mental health and job opportunities. Of the 88 successful participants so far, fewer than 10% have recommitted a crime.

“CareSource is excited to partner with Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein’s office and the Central Ohio Pathways HUB to support their diversion program, which addresses barriers to an individual’s ability to thrive,” said Jonas Thom, Vice President of Behavioral Health at CareSource. “This partnership reflects CareSource’s mission and values while helping keep people healthy and safe in their communities.”

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“CareSource is excited to partner with Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein’s office and the Central Ohio Pathways HUB to support their diversion program, which addresses barriers to an individual’s ability to thrive,” said Jonas Thom, Vice President of Behavioral Health at CareSource. “This partnership reflects CareSource’s mission and values while helping keep people healthy and safe in their communities.”

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## Insights from the HCGC Blog

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### **Supporting CHWs as they Support the Community**

**By Tanikka Price, Director of Education, Central Ohio Pathways HUB**

Technical Assistance support may conjure images of someone walking through how to use a computer program, or how to input data entry. Technical Assistance (TA) with Community Health Workers (CHWs) and their Supervisors in the Central Ohio Pathways HUB is so much more than that. HUB Director of Education, I approach every TA session armed with the knowledge that CHWs have a huge turnover rate, and that the assistance I provide may make the difference between this CHW remaining employed or not. General issues that CHWs face include burnout, time management challenges, unclear expectations and overwhelming personal issues.

[\*\*View the Entire Post\*\*](#)

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## Upcoming HCGC Events

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FEBRUARY 26  
10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

# Health Equity and Research in Practice

Virtual Convening #1

## Featured Content:

- An overview of Patient Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR)
- Research spotlights that address health equity in communities
- Facilitated panel featuring patients, providers, and payers

## Featured Presenters:



Al Richmond, MSW  
Executive Director,  
Community-Campus  
Partnerships for Health  
Promoting social justice & health equity



Denese Neu, PhD, MS  
Engagement Officer,  
Patient Centered Outcomes  
Research Institute  
Public and Patient Engagement



This webinar series was funded through a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Award (EACC-18489).

[Register Here](#)

## Articles of Interest & Upcoming Partner Events



[Columbus Health Commissioner Answers Your Vaccine Questions](#)

[Why Decarceration Is Vital For Public Health Amid COVID-19](#)

[COVID-19 and the Legacy of Racism: Vaccine Hesitancy and Treatment Bias](#)

[From ethics to logistics: What Ohio's leaders need to know about COVID-19 vaccines](#)

[Central Ohio's Positive Economic Outlook Tied To Vaccine Distribution](#)

## Monthly Meeting Resources

Following each Monthly Meeting and Regional Learning Session, the agenda, speaker information, slide deck and other relevant resources are uploaded

LOOKING FOR



RESOURCES?

to the HCGC website for your reference. [View resources.](#)

For a Calendar of Events visit:  
<http://www.hcgc.org/events.html>

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