

News from the COLLABORATIVE

June Featured Content

Healthcare Collaborative of Greater Columbus to Partner with Franklin County Public Health to Provide Contact Tracing for Vulnerable Populations

The Healthcare Collaborative of Greater Columbus (HCGC) is pleased to announce a partnership with Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) to provide contact tracing services to non-English and English as a second language speaking community members, which is a vulnerable population that local officials have identified as being disproportionately affected by COVID-19.

For over a year, HCGC has operated the Central Ohio Pathways HUB (HUB), a nationally certified care coordination model for Franklin and contiguous counties, which employs community health workers (CHWs) to assess medical, behavioral, and social risks for our most vulnerable neighbors and connect them with community resources to mitigate those risks. The HUB currently serves more than 1,000 clients, of which 80 percent represent minority, foreign-born, and non-English or English as a second language speaking populations.

As cities and counties across the state deploy resources to combat COVID-19, contact tracing has been identified as an integral strategy to find, measure, and track those infected in the region in order to reduce spread. As individuals are identified, a trained public health worker then works closely with them to educate, advocate for, and connect them to the



COVID-19 Contact Tracing Explained

from Partners in Health

Contact tracing is key to stopping the spread of deadly, infectious diseases around the world. A tried-and-true public health practice recently used to curb Ebola, it's now a critical part of the fight against COVID-19.

In April 2020, Partners In Health launched the first statewide coronavirus contact tracing program in the United States—

healthcare system. An important factor in the success of contact tracing is that it is conducted by a trusted community member.

“Because CHWs already have trusted relationships with individuals in the community, we believe that they are uniquely positioned to communicate and educate in order to help slow down the spread throughout the region,” said Jenelle Hoseus, Executive Director of the Central Ohio Pathways HUB. “Nearly one-third of our CHWs speak different languages (e.g., Arabic, Nepali, Somali, Spanish, French), which will help address the language, cultural and resource barriers among some of our most vulnerable populations. This partnership with Franklin County Public Health is a positive step toward reducing the spread of the COVID-19 among our vulnerable populations.”

Opportunity to Improve Care Coordination

In addition to helping to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 and serving the needs of our most vulnerable populations, CHWs have the opportunity to play a role in care coordination—helping to connect clients to other important services, including health insurance enrollment (including Medicaid), unemployment benefits, career education, food assistance, and guidance on attending prenatal and other preventative healthcare appointments.

[Learn more about the HUB](#)

the **Massachusetts Community Tracing Collaborative (CTC)**—in partnership with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and local boards of health. PIH is also providing technical advice on contact tracing to other states and municipalities through its newly established **U.S. Public Health Accompaniment Unit**.

Contact tracing has been crucial in the global fight against COVID-19, too—countries from Peru to Sierra Leone have turned to contact tracing as a way to track and stop the spread of the novel coronavirus.

[Learn more on PIH's Website](#)

HCGC July Webinar



Webinar: Containing the spread of COVID-19 through Contact Tracing

Wednesday, July 22nd
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

- ▶ Historical context
- ▶ Best practices
- ▶ Lessons learned
- ▶ Innovative models to reach vulnerable populations

Featured Presenters:



Alex Jones, MS, RN, CPH
Assistant Health Commissioner
Director of Prevention and Wellness
Franklin County Public Health



Jill Feldstein, MPH
Chief Operating Officer
Penn Center for Community Health Workers
University of Pennsylvania



John Welch, DNP, MS, CRNA
Executive Director
Massachusetts Community Tracing Collaborative
Partners In Health

www.hcgc.org/events

[Register Here](#)

Insights from the HCGC Blog



Using the Mirror to See One Another

By Tanikka C. Price, Data and Finance Director, Central Ohio Pathways HUB, HCGC

*Adapted from a presentation given to Dress for Success Columbus Volunteers in response to George Floyd's murder and the protests that followed on 6/10/2020 [Click here to view the presentation](#)

The current climate of racial and political division has called many people to question the world around them, but I'm calling you to look within rather than outward to find the change we all need. Although many of us look around and outside of ourselves when the conversation starts to talk about bias, it may be that humans are inherently wired for bias. Bias is intended to help us. Think for a moment, would you sit on a three-legged chair? Think of the visual cues you used when choosing your partner or spouse. What attracted you? What repelled you? This is the way we use bias to survive.

Sometimes, biases are what Kelly Robsham in her blog entitled "[Creating An Inclusive Company: Challenging Our Biases](#)" calls "cognitive shortcuts" that are a result of human evolution. "We've evolved to have cognitive shortcuts (also known as heuristics) meaning we often survive by relying on unconscious assumptions in our lives." Robsham

highlights several occurrences of unintentional bias that affects decisions made in the workplace, including in hiring, retention and onboarding practices. These biases can be based on gender, race, age, and several other factors that are deep down in one's subconscious.

[View the Entire Post](#)

Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute Featured Article



Implementation of the IMPaCT Community Health Worker Intervention

Shreya Kangovi, MD, MS, shares the results of her PCORI-funded research project that evaluated IMPaCT, a standardized form of support to patients from community health workers. Kangovi's team is now expanding the implementation of IMPaCT beyond Philadelphia, where the original project took place.



[Read more on PCORI's website](#)



Articles of Interest & Upcoming Partner Events

[Franklin County Psychiatric Bedboard turns 11 years old](#)

[Medical bias, weathering and the deadly impact on Black mothers](#)

[Columbus Foundation "Big Give" Raises Big Funds for Central Ohio Nonprofits](#)

[A Tool to Promote Psychological Safety During and After COVID-19](#)

[HPIO: Clinician wellbeing: The state of mental health before and after COVID-19](#)

[ADAMH Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Updates and Resources](#)

LOOKING FOR



RESOURCES?

Monthly Meeting Resources

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