INTEGRATING SOCIAL CARE INTO WOMEN’S HEALTH CARE: STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT OF OB/GYN WITH MONTEFIORE HEALTH SYSTEMS’ SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH SCREENING AND REFERRAL INITIATIVE

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BACKGROUND

- 40% of health outcomes and 30% of deaths attributable to social determinants of health (SDH).1,2 Patients with social needs incur higher health care expenditures increasing with each social need1,3
- Bronx lowest (62/62 NY counties) for health factors (40% social/economic, 30% health behaviors) and health outcomes including maternal mortality.4,5 Bronx has higher rates of maternal obesity, diabetes, hypertension, teen pregnancy, and infant mortality than the rest of the country, state, and other boroughs in NYC4
- WHO evidenced-based guidelines: Community Health Workers (CHWs) cost effective6 to address SDH
- Montefiore Goal: Universal SDH screening supporting integration of CHWs into service delivery

OBJECTIVES

To implement universal SDH screening across all Montefiore Ob/Gyn clinical locations in the Bronx supporting CHW integration to assist patients obtaining social services.

METHODS

Universal SDH screening across Montefiore Ob/Gyn to:
- Inform social risk prevalence
- CHW workforce projections/funding
- Track clinical outcomes & cost metrics

OUTCOMES

1. Screening in pilot Ob/Gyn site → universal screening in all Ob/Gyn outpatient specialty and subspecialty sites in the Bronx → inpatient initiative (L+D/Well Baby/NICU)
2. Providing data dashboards showing referral outcomes to providers, departments and health system
3. Sharing best practices and philanthropic alignment with champions from other departments at MHS

NEXT STEPS / ANTICIPATED DELIVERABLES

- Outcome metrics/fiscal benefits of CHWs including potential reductions in:
  - Missed outpatient appointments*
  - ED visits
  - Non-medical tasks of providers provider→burnout4,5
- Business plan for funding in CHWs at Montefiore:
  - 1115 Waivers NY State
  - Internal provider financing seeking alternative payment mechanisms on a capitated coverage-based system anticipating potential reduced costs/Improved outcomes
  - New York State Medicaid pay for performance

SUMMARY

Leading OB/GYN in universal SDH screening, sharing best practices, and integrating CHW referrals at MMC.
ELAM Institutional Action Project Abstract 2022

**Project Title:** Integrating Social Care into Women’s Health Care: Strategic alignment of Ob/Gyn with Montefiore Health Systems’ Social Determinants of Health Screening and Referral Initiative.

**Name & Institution:** Erika Banks MD Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine

**Collaborators and Mentors:** Kevin Fiore MD, MPD, MSc and Andrew Racine MD, PhD

**Background/Challenge**

Up to 40% of health outcomes and 30% of deaths may be attributable to social determinants of health (SDH). Patients vulnerable because of social needs incur increased health care expenditures and increased cost with each social need. In 2010 NY ranked 46th of 50 states for maternal mortality and in 2016 that rate increased and in 2021 the Bronx ranked lowest (62 out of 62 NY counties) for health factors (40% social/economic, 30% health behaviors) and health outcomes including maternal mortality. Despite WHO guidelines and evidence that integrating Community Health Workers (CHW) is cost saving, high-performing CHW programs are rare. OB/Gyns poised to advance Montefiore’s goal for universal SDH screening and support integration of CHWs into service delivery at Montefiore.

**Objectives:**

To implement universal SDH screening across all Montefiore Ob/Gyn clinical locations in the Bronx supporting CHW integration to assist patients obtaining social services

**Methods:**

Universal SDH screening across Montefiore Ob/Gyn can inform social risk prevalence, CHW workforce projections/funding, and track clinical outcomes and cost metrics. Aligning Ob/Gyn with Montefiore Health System initiatives to integrate the CHW Institute at Montefiore and Community Health System Lab at Albert Einstein College of Medicine supporting CHW recruitment, training and deployment as funded by Robin Hood Foundation (1.5M) and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundations ($950,000). Sustain trainee engagement and outcomes reporting via AMA “Reimagining Residency” Grant (1.8M) providing SDH data for QI outcomes initiatives and interrogate measurable improvements in health outcomes when SDH are addressed.

**Outcomes:**

1. Screening in pilot Ob/Gyn site transitioned to universal screening in all Ob/Gyn specialty and subspecialty outpatient sites in the Bronx and launching inpatient initiative (L+D/Well Baby/NICU).
2. Connecting departmental support with intutional priorities/experience through departmental administrative engagement and interdepartmental networking.
3. Providing data dashboards showing referral outcomes to providers, departments and health system.
4. Sharing best practices and philanthropic alignment with champions from other departments at MHS.

**Next Steps/Anticipated Deliverables:**

Outcome metrics/fiscal benefits of CHWs including potentially decreased: missed outpatient appointments, ED visits, non-medical tasks of providers, provider burnout. Business plan for investing in CHWs within OB/GYN: increase philanthropy transitioning to sustainable funding (1115 Waivers NY State, internal provider financing seeking alternative payment mechanisms on a capitated coverage-based system anticipating potential reduced costs due to improved outcomes, and/or New York State Medicaid pay for performance.)

**Summary:**

Ob/Gyn leading universal SDH screening, sharing best practices, and integrating CHW referrals at MMC. Utilize Ob/Gyn data to build philanthropic transitioning to sustainable funding.