

Themes to Recognize:

- The Role of Healthcare Organizations with the Social Determinants of Health:
 - Healthcare organizations are motivated around and engaged with the social determinants of health. Various comments indicate that the time is here and this approach is bubbling to the top. Recognition that community organizations have been addressing this all along.
 - Healthcare is holistic, impacted by the social determinants of health, whole person, whole family, physical and mental health.
 - Relationships can go beyond the referral strategy. Example could be a partnership between food shelves and mobile food marts with a healthcare representative. Put the health lens on site where people receive food.
 - There was a thread of hope and willingness at the table; a commitment to figure this out. A pilot on a small scale could be a demonstration project and a learning platform.
- Potential Barriers to Partnership Solutions:
 - Acknowledgement of disparities and structural racism, system issues.
 - For clinics to engage with families around basic needs during appointments, practitioners must also have the capacity, and commitment, to pursue that line of conversation with patients.
 - Recognition that healthcare is good at “pushing patients into the community”; “How can healthcare be a true partner, supporting community organizations in new ways?” Healthcare doesn’t want to overwhelm community based organizations by flooding them with referrals. Healthcare heard that community based organizations have capacity issues. “Buy in” on both sides (staff at healthcare and community organizations) is a potential barrier.
 - Pressing question is “who is paying for it”- when it comes to assessing healthcare around the social determinants of health. Is it healthcare practitioners? Social workers? Community Based Organizations? Funding is a bridge and a barrier.
- Building a Model and Process for Partnership:
 - Representatives of the healthcare organizations around the table have some experience with funding and contracts partnership work. Patrick has “creative contracting” skills.
 - Sustainability is a concern around any partnership. Must create a model of efficiency, create a “best practice”. Complexity will kill a pilot, must keep it streamlined and simple. Important to create partnerships that are not simply built on one champion (who may leave an organization).
 - “Early Wins” are important to partnership momentum.
 - Technology as part of the solution, via shared case management database (NowPow). The hardest part can be system to system integration.
 - There is an interest in exploring partnership models, locally and nationally, to learn more. Transparency is critical; clarity of expectations; while remaining flexible. Don’t be afraid of disagreement. Be intentional about what needs & self-interests are and how to meet them. Set expectations early, have them in writing.
 - This is not easy.