



# Newsletter

# September/October 2016

**WASHTENAW  
HEALTH  
INITIATIVE**

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### Thank you for Your Support in 2016!

2016 has been an exciting year for the Washtenaw Health Initiative (WHI)!

The WHI welcomed a new steering committee co-chair-- Doug Strong, former CEO of the University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers; three new steering committee members--Connie Conklin of Livingston County Community Mental Health, Mary Beth Skupien of the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, and Marti Walsh of Integrated Healthcare Associates; as well as the second WHI Intern-- Kate Weidmayer from the University of Michigan School of Social Work.

Washtenaw and Livingston counties were selected as a pilot region for the State Innovation Model (SIM), and the WHI is deeply involved in the process of planning and designing SIM implementation in our region.

The UNITE group: the WHI project team, with representatives from all nonprofit hospitals in the county, completed its first joint Community Health Needs

## WHI News

### SIM Update

The WHI is continuing the Planning and Design phase for the SIM in Washtenaw and Livingston counties.

The SIM Data/IT subcommittee is developing a model to predict who will be high emergency department users and may benefit from the SIM Community-Clinical Linkage Intervention.

The Intervention Subcommittee is currently designing a model to coordinate care for identified residents.

The ASC/PCMH subcommittee is working to identify and recommend a simple, easy to use social needs screening tool for PCMH practices not currently using such a tool. Once needs are identified, patients will be linked to appropriate social services.



SOCIAL NEED DOMAIN	EXAMPLES
Food Insecurity	Limited or uncertain access to adequate & nutritious food
Housing Instability	Homelessness, unsafe housing quality, inability to pay mortgage/rent, frequent housing disruptions, eviction
Utility Needs	Difficulty paying utility bills, shut off notices, discounted phone
Financial Resource Strain <sup>2</sup>	Public cash benefits, charity emergency funds, financial literacy, medication under-use due to cost, benefit denial
Transportation	Difficulty accessing/affording transportation (medical or public)
Exposure To Violence <sup>3</sup>	Intimate partner violence, elder abuse, community violence
Socio-Demographic Information	Race & ethnicity, educational attainment, family income level, immigration status, languages spoken

*The social needs screening tool recommended for PCMH practices will be based on the social need domains recommended by Health Leads.*

## Medicaid and Marketplace Enrollment Events Connect Students with Health Insurance

The WHI Medicaid and Marketplace Enrollment group hosted three on-campus outreach and enrollment events over the past month! At these events, students can meet with a trained Certified Application Counselor to discuss their eligibility and options for 2017 health insurance

Assessment and Implementation Plan, working together to address our community's top health priorities. The WHI Opioid Project: group members have participated in multiple community events and the project launched a website to connect community members to the work of the Opioid Project and other available resources. The Advance Care Planning (ACP) project: the group has developed and published an ACP guide titled, "Making your Healthcare Wishes Known" and held a very successful community event. The work of the ACP group in creating this guide has been published in Health Affairs.

These projects (and more) demonstrate the excellent work of the WHI stakeholders over the past year. As the collaborative continues its mission to improve the health and healthcare of Washtenaw County residents in 2017, we are thankful for all that has been accomplished and look forward to the important work to come!

Thank you, WHI Supporters!  
The WHI wishes a Happy New Year to all!

### Quick Links



- [WHI Website](#)

coverage. Events were held at the University of Michigan College of Pharmacy, School of Public Health, and University Health Services.

During the School of Public Health Event:

- 11 students signed up and attended appointments with a Certified Application Counselor and 1 student was a walk in appointment.
- 5 additional students were connected to University Health Service to receive assistance with their questions.

On December 7, the University Health Service held an enrollment event, attracting 26 students who met with Certified Application Counselors. Results included:

- 15 students enrolled in the Healthy Michigan Plan.
- 4 students started Healthy Michigan Plan applications and plan to submit by January 1, 2017.
- 2 students started applications for marketplace coverage.
- 2 students decided to purchase UM Aetna Student Health Insurance
- 3 students received answers to general Medicaid/Marketplace questions

More enrollment events are being scheduled, including another at University Health Service on January 25, with more to come! Details about future events will be available as they are confirmed. For questions or comments, contact Megan Foster Friedman at [mfosterf@med.umich.edu](mailto:mfosterf@med.umich.edu).

## Talk Turkey: Advance Care Planning Conversation Guide Highlighted at Thanksgiving ACP Event

The University of Michigan Health System (UMHS) encouraged staff and patients to discuss their health care wishes with their families at the Thanksgiving table during a recent event. Recognizing that this can be a difficult conversation to start, UMHS distributed a variety of materials at an event in the hospital cafeteria to help start the conversation, including the newly published Advance Care Planning (ACP) Conversation Guide, "Making your Health Care Wishes Known." The guide introduces readers to Advance Care Planning terminology and concepts, and guides them through the process of considering and selecting a patient advocate to make health care decisions if they are unable to do so themselves.

What makes the ACP guide unique is its focus on introducing advance care planning to anyone who may not be as familiar with these concepts. The guide focuses on an introduction to the process, providing thoughtful questions to assist the reader in thinking about advance care planning. Additionally, the guide's development was

- [WHI Member Portal](#)
- [Center for Healthcare Research & Transformation](#)

## Upcoming Member Meetings & Other Events

### January

- 3** - SIM Data/IT Subcommittee (3-4pm, CHRT)
- 6** - SIM ASC/PCMH Subcommittee Meeting (8:30 - 9:30am, CHRT)
- 9** - WHI MMOE Work Group Meeting (10-11:30am, United Way - 2305 Platt Rd, Ann Arbor, MI)
- 10** - SIM Intervention Subcommittee Meeting (1-2pm, CHRT)
- 13** - WHI Steering Committee Meeting (2:30 - 4pm, CHRT)
- 14** - WHI CCDS Meeting (3-4:30pm, CHRT)
- 16** - WHI SIM Workgroup Meeting (10-11:30am, CHRT)
- 20** - WHI Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Work Group Meeting (3-4:30, CHRT)
- 15** - WHI Advance Care Planning Project Meeting (11-noon, CHRT)
- 24** - WHI Primary Care and Safety Net Work Group Meeting (2-3:30pm, CHRT)
- 31** - SIM Intervention Subcommittee (1-2pm, CHRT)

### February

- 3** - SIM ASC/PCMH Subcommittee Meeting (8:30 - 9:30am, CHRT)
- 2** - SIM Co-Chair Meeting (11-12pm, CHRT)
- 7** - SIM Data/IT Subcommittee (3-4pm, CHRT)
- 10** - WHI Steering Committee Meeting (2:30 - 4 PM, CHRT)
- 13** - WHI MMOE Work Group Meeting (10-11:30am, United Way - 2305 Platt Rd, Ann Arbor, MI)
- 14** - SIM Intervention Subcommittee (1-2pm, CHRT)
- 17** - WHI Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Work Group Meeting (3-4:30, CHRT)
- 20** - SIM Work Group Meeting (10-11:30 AM, CHRT)
- 28** - SIM Intervention Subcommittee (1-2pm, CHRT)
- 28** - WHI Primary Care and Safety Net Work Group Meeting (2-3:30pm, CHRT)

## About the

informed by focus groups of both providers and community members.

The University of Michigan also published a blog, "How to Discuss Health Care and End-of-Life Wishes During the Holidays," that included the ACP guide as an available resource. The blog post highlights five major steps:

1. Choose a patient advocate who will speak for you if you cannot.
2. Pick the best candidate.
3. Tell your advocate your goals, values and wishes.
4. Complete a durable power of attorney for health care form.
5. Spread the word.

The WHI Advance Care Planning group published the guide, which is available for download on the WHI website, and is currently developing strategies to more widely disseminate the guide into the community. For questions or comments, contact Jaque King at [jaquek@umich.edu](mailto:jaquek@umich.edu).

## Dawn Farm Education Series and UM Bright Nights Event Highlight the Opioid Epidemic in Washtenaw County

"How many of you in this room have been personally impacted by opioids?" Dr. Stephen Strobbe asked the crowd of community members. Nearly everyone raised their hand and several shared their personal experiences with addiction. Dr. Strobbe explained why these anecdotes emphasize the need for community-driven work on the epidemic facing Washtenaw County. "This is a community initiative," Strobbe said of the WHI Opioid Project. "A handful of experts alone are not going to turn this around. It really does take a concentrated and concerted effort and those communities who have responded cohesively have had the best outcome."

Dr. Strobbe, a University of Michigan School of Nursing Professor and WHI Opioid Project co-chair, spoke at two events in November. The events both included a presentation about the national and local opioid epidemics, followed by a panel discussion. Panelists included Officer Lieutenant Lisa King from the Washtenaw County Police Department, U-M nurse practitioner Gina Dahlem, and two community members who shared their stories of past heroin addiction and long-term recovery. Combined, the two events brought about 90 community members together to discuss the epidemic, how to combat it, and what the WHI Opioid Project is currently doing to reduce overdose deaths.

At the November 15th Bright Nights event, hosted by the UM Depression Center, WHI Opioid Project Co-chair Marci Scalera emphasized: "Many people don't have an understanding of how prevalent the problem is, so we are...wanting to ensure that people understand that this is a problem. We want to reduce stigma. We want to save lives and we want to get folks into treatment." At the

# Washtenaw Health Initiative

The [Washtenaw Health Initiative](#) is a voluntary, county-wide collaboration focused on how to improve access to coordinated care for the low-income, uninsured, and Medicaid populations. The effort includes representatives from the University of Michigan Health System, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, health plans, county government, community services, physicians, and safety net providers.

[Washtenaw Health Initiative](#)  
(734) 998-7567

## Share Your Story

Share your story ideas for the WHI newsletter with Carrie at (734) 998-7567 or [crheinga@umich.edu](mailto:crheinga@umich.edu)

## Join Our Mailing List

event, six people signed up to attend a Naloxone training event, and four expressed interest in volunteering with the WHI Opioid Project.

During the Dawn Farm Education Series, Dahlem emphasized that though police officers and first responders receive training to-and are often who administers-the lifesaving, overdose-reversing drug Naloxone, bystanders should not let a lack of training prevent them from administering the drug and potentially saving a life. She described the signs of an overdose and how to administer Naloxone if you suspect someone is having an overdose. An interest sheet was available at the event for individuals interested in being trained on how to administer Naloxone.

To listen to the Bright Nights Event presentation, a video is available here. Additionally, The Michigan Daily published two articles, one about the Bright Nights Event and one on the Dawn Farm Education Series. To learn more about the WHI Opioid Project and how to get involved, visit the WHI Opioid Project website or contact Angy Perez-Martinez at [aperez@med.umich.edu](mailto:aperez@med.umich.edu).

## Other News Potential GOP Approaches to the Affordable Care Act

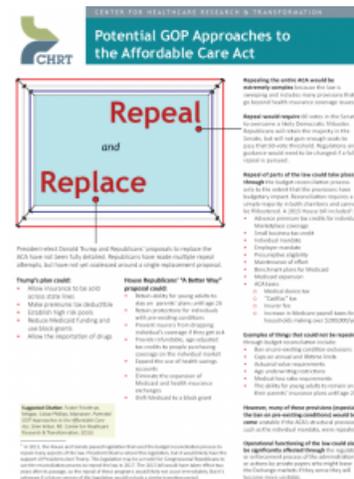
Following the November election, the future of the Affordable Care Act-and the impact of potential health care changes on individuals' access to health insurance-is uncertain.

Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation (CHRT) Director Marianne Udow-Phillips and Megan Foster Friedman, a CHRT policy analyst, examines potential GOP approaches to the ACA in a new one-page summary.

The one-pager, titled "Potential GOP approaches to the Affordable Care Act," explains:

- What the GOP repeal and replacement plans may include
- What aspects could be repealed through budget reconciliation package
- Some of the complexities of changes to the ACA

The document is available on the [CHRT website](#).



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