2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Healthcare A collaborative rural health network Consortium Improving access to quality health care

Who We Are

The Columbia County Community Healthcare Consortium, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation established in 1998 to create a network of health and human service providers serving the rural community in and around Columbia County.

Our Purpose

The result that we are trying to achieve is Healthy People.

Our Mission

We contribute to this result by advancing our central mission – increasing access to quality healthcare– through collaboration, education, information and service delivery.

Our Values

Access to quality health care is a fundamental right of every individual. Individuals are primarily responsible for their own health care decisions and require information and education to fulfill their role effectively. Improving the health of our community occurs through the partnership of health, social service, all levels of government, and wellness organizations. Collaboration and provision of preventative and wellness services has long-term efficiencies.

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A Letter from the President Beth Schuster

Dear Community Members and Supporters:

The year of 2015 has brought to bear many innovative and productive projects for the Columbia County Community Healthcare Consortium.

One of the most exciting and challenging projects has been the involvement with the NYS Medicaid Re-Design Project of DSRIP, which stands for Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program. We have been working collaboratively with old and new partners in this endeavor including the Alliance for Positive Health and Albany Medical Center. We have been "at the table" for many formative discussions, contributing to the discourse, advocating for our community and positioning the agency and other key local players for ongoing involvement in the decision making process.

We also launched the Bengali Community Youth Health Worker Project (BHP for short) which brought together nationally-recognized Community Health Worker trainers to train six Bengali Youth to serve as Community Health Workers in their community. We were also able to train existing staff from numerous community-based organizations, including the Columbia County Department of Health, Common Ground, the Columbia-Greene Mental



Health Association and some of our Consortium staff as well. These workers are currently serving the community under the direction of our subcontractor, Operation Unite, a new and valuable agency partner.

This past year we were also able to develop a new partnership with the Columbia County Department of Health's Migrant Worker Program, using staff from both the Cancer Services Program and our Navigator Program. This is a great example of a public-private partnership that can work effectively and efficiently.

Also in 2015, the Consortium was able to purchase a new multi-passenger, wheelchair-accessible minibus so that we could continue transport larger groups and those needing assistive devices.

The Consortium continues its role as a key member of the Columbia-Greene Controlled Substance Awareness Task Force, P. A. S. It On (a related Greene County initiative), the Columbia County Re-Entry Task Force and the Substance Abuse Committee of the Columbia County Community Services Board.

The Consortium had the honor of being named the 2015 Not-for-Profit Agency of the year by the Greene County Chamber of Commerce and was provided with a Citation by the NYS Assembly.

Finally, The Board of Directors of the Healthcare Consortium participated in a day-long Board Retreat that addressed many facets of Board responsibility and participation that has assisted in coalescing Board ideas and future planning for the Consortium.

As President of the Board of the Columbia County Community Healthcare Consortium, I thank the Board for their dedicated work; I thank the staff that works with great enthusiasm and competence; and I thank Claire Parde, Executive Director for her leadership, innovation and collaboration.

Helping People Get through the Healthcare Maze

Healthcare is a maze, with all the endless avenues, blind corners, and dead ends that implies. By design, it separates and segments the parts of the body, body from mind, and efforts from outcomes – while obscuring us from a whole and complete view. Is it any wonder that those most enmeshed in it yearn to be free of it and others fail to penetrate it at all?

For 18 years, the Healthcare Consortium has been helping people get through the healthcare maze by providing information, education, advocacy and direct assistance. Our role has been to ensure people can get and stay healthy by addressing the physical, financial, cultural, language, and knowledge barriers to accessing healthcare services. This is a necessary role for an organization like ours to play when the healthcare system is as labyrinthine and complex as the one we have.

Efforts are currently underway to reconfigure the healthcare system by cutting a swath through the barriers within it, carefully weaving together its essential parts, and starving it of the nourishment to its most unruly and perverse growth. It's an enormous undertaking, and those who are dubious about its success can be forgiven for their skepticism. Nevertheless, it's not an effort that can be ignored.

For the Healthcare Consortium, this has presented us with an opportune moment to fully embrace our role as a convener, facilitator, catalyst, and innovator. As a Rural Health Network, we are comprised of a broad array of health and human service providers with diverse specialties and interests. We have long maintained that our role is to represent not only the interests of the Consortium as an agency and provider, but also the interests of all our network members and, most importantly, the people we all serve. As a result, we've attempted to take a leadership role in educating our members and other partners, organizing their efforts, and ensuring that the collective interests of our community are represented and advanced.

We do this because, first and foremost, it is our charge, and also because we are convinced that something good must and will come from the concerted, coordinated, and faithful efforts of the smart, capable, and creative people involved. I am forever awed and inspired by our community – its talented members, its collaborative spirit, its resourcefulness; these qualities may not be unique to our community, but that makes them, and us, no less special. Therefore, I reflect on the past year with satisfaction and gratitude for our work thus far, and look forward with great enthusiasm and optimism to the next year and the good work still ahead.

As always, I feel it is my privilege to be involved in this work with the Consortiums' incredibly talented and committed staff, dedicated Board, and our valued partners and supporters.



Message from the Executive Director Claire Parde, MS



Key Programs & Services



Children and Adults Rural Transportation Service (C.A.R.T.S.) Door-to-door non-emergency medical transportation

The Navigator Program

In-person assistance enrolling in health insurance on the NY State of Health: the Official Health Plan Marketplace



NYConnects

Information and referral for individuals with long-term care needs

The Financial Assistance Funds

Financial support for healthcare and other expenses for limited-resource individuals and families



The Tobacco-Free Communities Program

Advocacy for policy changes that make tobacco products less visible, less accessible, and denormalize tobacco use.

The Cancer Services Program

Free breast, cervical, and colorectal screenings for uninsured



and underinsured men and women, aged 40-64

The Prescription Access and Referral Program

Low-cost or no-cost prescription medications for residents of





2015 Program Accomplishments

Transportation

418 clients served 114 new clients 170,356 miles traveled 14,784 total trips

Navigator

3,419 inquiries 2,264 applications completed 3,058 consumers enrolled

NYConnects

450 people assisted with long term care needs

Of the 450 people assisted, 50% had complex needs that required options counseling.

Financial Assistance Funds

49 applications sent with
45 returned
43 received financial assistance

Tobacco

- Assisted 4 affordable housing providers implement policies creating a total of 443 units of smoke-free housing for seniors on low income individuals and families.
- Assisted 4 municipalities implement tobacco-free grounds policies.

- Assisted Windham Mountain Ski Area implement a comprehensive smoking restriction policy.
- Tobacco-Free Action added a youth component called the Reality Check Program. It hired a Program Coordinator who has started laying the Program's foundation.

Cancer Services

132 clients served 307 cancer screenings

- 2 clients diagnosed with breast cancer
- I client diagnosed with cervical cancer

The diagnosed clients were enrolled into the Medicaid Cancer Treatment Program and received cancer treatment at no cost to them. They also receive case management services which assists them in obtaining additional resources which help them during the difficult time of diagnosis and treatment.

Prescription Access and Referral Program

95 clients assisted

25 clients currently on a monthly prescription program

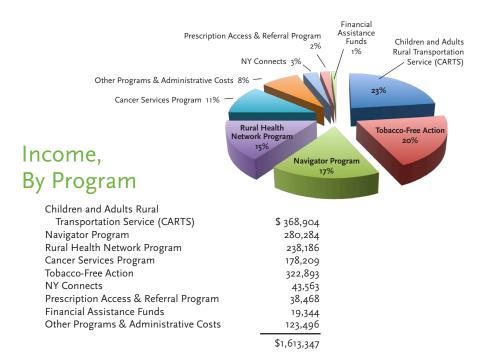
Financials

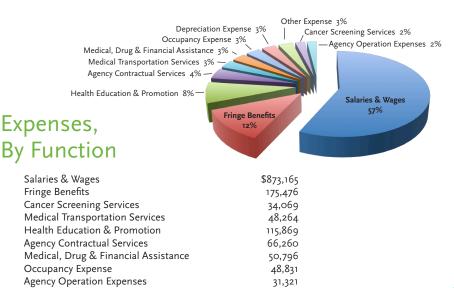
Sources of Revenue and Supports

Health Research Institute New York State Department of Health Columbia County Board of Supervisors Columbia County Department of Social Services Columbia County Department of Human Services Columbia County Office for the Aging Columbia County Department of Health The Foundation for Community Health The Dyson Foundation The Galvan Foundation Individual Donors

Total Revenue, By Source

Grants, NYS	\$1,001,096
Grants, Federal	18,476
Columbia County Departments	108,308
Columbia County Governments	95,575
Medicaid Reimbursements	187,725
Foundation Revenue	133,090
Others	69,077
	\$1,613,347





Depreciation Expense

Other Expense

\$1,577

\$1,613,347

38,647



325 Columbia Street • Hudson, NY 12534 518-822-8820 • fax 518-828-1479 www.columbiahealthnet.org