Health and Health Care Priorities and Challenges in North Carolina

NAM Vital Directions for Health and Health Care Symposium

Steve Neorr
Senior Vice President
Population Health
North Carolina – Strengths

- Strong local public health infrastructure
- Excellent university system that provides nationally-ranked education for physicians, nurses, social workers, physician assistants, pharmacists, and public health professionals
- A network of ACOs across the state committed to furthering value-based care
- Growing commitment to investing in early childhood (e.g. The Get Ready Guilford Initiative, has attracted over $30M in outside funding)
North Carolina – Most Pressing Challenges

- Medicaid expansion
- Prevention of Chronic Disease, especially Diabetes, through lifestyle changes (e.g. nutrition, physical activity)
- Prevention of Addiction and integrated Mental Health services
- Access to High Quality, Affordable Healthcare
  - Cone provide over $425M annually in uncompensated care
  - Need more diversity in Exchange products
- Creating Living Conditions that Nurture Health – impact of SDoH
- Eliminating Bias and Discrimination in Healthcare
Understanding the Impact of System Design

“Every system is perfectly designed to get the results it gets.”

- Paul Batalden, M.D.
  Dartmouth Medical School

“If we keep doing what we have been doing, we'll keep getting what we've always gotten”—an expensive, high-tech, inefficient health-care system. "The health-care system needs to be redesigned.”

Dartmouth Medicine, Spring 2006
Changing the System

“If improvement is the plan, then we own the plan. Government cannot do it. Payers cannot do it. Regulators cannot do it. Only the people who give care can improve it.”

Promising Care - 2014
Don Berwick M.D.
Former CMS Administrator
Founder and CEO of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement