

Health Innovation Leadership Network: Healthier Washington Physical and Behavioral Health Integration Accelerator Committee

Context

The Healthier Washington Initiative will build healthier communities through a collaborative regional approach, ensure health care focuses on the whole person, and improve how we pay for services in order to achieve the triple aim of better health, better care and lower cost.

To that end, Washington aims to drive 80 percent of state-financed health care and 50 percent of the commercial market to value-based payment and delivery models by 2020. Washington State will employ its position in the marketplace to drive transformation as both a “first mover” and “market convener.”

Washington purchases health care coverage for more than two million people through Medicaid and the Public Employee Benefits Program. The state will leverage its purchasing power to lead by example and accelerate the adoption of value-based and integrated models.

Call to Action

Beyond the life of the Healthier Washington Initiative, the Health Innovation Leadership Network and Healthier Washington team wish to pose the question to their public and private partners: *What’s next?*

The Healthier Washington Physical & Behavioral Health Integration Accelerator Committee will build upon existing efforts and collaborations to achieve whole-person care. The Committee will engage connections with Washington’s public and private partners to harness innovations and promote the spread of integrated service delivery models.

Opportunity to Drive Change

The Committee recognizes there are significant opportunities and challenges inherent in integrating physical and behavioral health services, and that each region of the state may be at a unique place on the pathway to integration, with a distinct set of capacities or challenges tailored to the circumstances of the individual provider or region.

In the context of moving to integrated purchasing and delivery of services:

- *What opportunities are made available to providers to further integrate physical and behavioral health services?*

- *How can we support this transition, recognizing that regions and providers are at different stages in the process?*

- *What are some of the unique challenges that providers face across the state?*

The Committee offers public and private partners a voice in answering these questions and helps build a sustainable future for Washington’s providers. It will pave the way for continued engagement of current initiatives in integrated purchasing and delivery.

The Intent

The intent of the Committee is to support providers in the ongoing transition to integrated delivery models through the mastering of challenges, distribution of best practices, and sharing of practice transformation support resources. Informed by an environmental scan the Committee will connect stakeholders and help these thought leaders leverage their resources to master challenges to adoption of integrated delivery models.

- *What are the tools physical and behavioral health providers have now? What is needed?*
- *How can we learn from integrated models of care that are operational in our State, or providers that have pursued fully-integrated purchasing, to disseminate best practices and support providers that want to move along the spectrum to co-located care?*
- *In Washington State, where are providers along the pathway to co-located care, and how can we support and sustain providers at varying stages and better understand why regions of the State have varying capacities to achieve fully-integrated care?*

This may be as simple as aligning vital resources, or identifying tools already in existence and putting them into action. Or, it may be as broad as leveraging resources to promote the spread of integrated care models and identifying challenges to implementing those models, with recommendations for how best to master those challenges. The Committee will be encouraged to identify and prioritize the areas where they will have the most impact collectively and as individual member organizations.

Proposed Healthier Washington Physical and Behavioral Health Integration Accelerator Committee Guiding Principles

Mission: Accelerate the uptake and spread of integrated delivery models.

Vision: Connecting and drawing linkages between Washington’s public and private sector stakeholders to drive action and create innovative solutions around physical and behavioral health system challenges, and build sustainability for Healthier Washington initiatives.

Goals: Mobilize health innovators to:
1) Facilitate the uptake of integrated models of care;

- 2) Identify challenges to integrated service delivery and take action to master the challenges and expand opportunities; and
- 3) Identify and disseminate best practices and/or practice transformation resources, in alignment with existing or developing transformation efforts.

Targeted Priorities for Committee Consideration¹:

1. Develop an inventory to assess providers across the State and their capacity for adopting more advanced integrated care models.
2. Conduct a readiness assessment tool for partners to self-evaluate their current capacity to achieve maximum integration.
3. Develop and implement a statewide communication clearing house of integration models, definitions, tools, stories of mastery over challenges, listing of opportunities and more.
4. Champion legislative and state governmental changes that are customized to incentivize integration delivery models across all regions.
5. Succeed in these targeted priorities within a viable and realistic timeline by leveraging the resources and commitment of committee members to take collective and individual action.

¹ The Committee, once formed, will collectively define and finalize its priorities, objectives and action pathway.