



Building a Bridge to Better Health Coalition (BBBHC)

*Enriching Community Transitions & Healthcare
through Communication, Collaboration and Coordination*



Meeting Summary

Thursday, October 26, 2017, 11:30am

ETHRA Offices, Knoxville, TN

ATTENDEES

24 people attended representing 18 different organizations.

WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Walter Fitzgerald, BBBHC Chair / South College School of Pharmacy, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Thank you to South College School of Pharmacy for sponsoring lunch.

2018 MEETINGS

BBBHC will continue meeting on the 4th Thursday of the quarter (January, April, July and October 2018) at 11:30am. Dates are: January 25, April 26, July 26 and October 25.

Topics / ideas discussed for future meetings:

- Restart the small group committees that were previously meeting
- Sepsis – at January meeting – Dr. Fitzgerald asked Joe Nowell and Andy Houck to lead discussion at this meeting.
- Opioid – strategies to reduce opioid use and tools we all have to manage the crisis
- Invite Legislators to discuss what is on legislative agenda about healthcare (possibly Lt. Governor Randy McNally and Senator Richard Briggs)
- Create a strategic plan for BBBHC
- Revisit Charter at January 2018 meeting

If you have additional ideas on topics for future meetings, contact Walter Fitzgerald at wfitzgerald@southcollegetn.edu.

DISPENSARY OF HOPE PRESENTATION

Anita Stanford (Chief Development Officer) and Hillary Blackburn (Director of Pharmaceutical Services) shared information about the Dispensary of Hope program. They began in 2003, and partner with 150 non-profit access sites in 28 states. In East TN, they partner with the University of TN Medical Center Pharmacy. They have 22 staff members nationwide.

The Dispensary of Hope is a charitable medication distributor. Through innovative stewardship of the pharmaceutical supply-chain, the Dispensary of Hope collects and distributes millions of dollars of pharmaceuticals annually to charitable clinics and pharmacies to dispense to low income, uninsured patients. Pharmacies and clinics utilize Dispensary of Hope medication to address community health concerns, as the cornerstone of avoidable hospital readmission

programs and to reduce unnecessary emergency room use that often results from lack of access to affordable medication.

Medication is received through generous donations from brand and generic manufacturers. As members of HDA, AAM, and an accredited organization of the MedSurplus Alliance, the Dispensary of Hope has established a foundation of innovative solutions to prescription medication access by connecting abundance with need for the most vulnerable communities in the US. Our manufacturer partners help over 40,000 patients throughout the US.

Medication is distributed domestically to access sites, which include federally qualified health centers, free clinics, charitable pharmacies, outpatient pharmacies, and state central access programs, all licensed to dispense medication. The typical recipients of Dispensary of Hope medication are patients between the ages of 18 and 65, with income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, and who are pharmaceutically uninsured.

Today, the work of the Dispensary of Hope is delivered by a national collaborative of health systems, drug manufacturers, and others dedicated to providing medication access to the most underserved communities. Each day, this collaborative is humbled by the stories heard from patients, the challenges they take on in seeking medical care and the trials they face in securing the medication that often keeps them alive.

To view the video about Dispensary of Hope, visit: <https://vimeo.com/user48329007>.

For more information, visit their website at: <http://dispensaryofhope.org/>.

COMMUNITY DATA UPDATE

Corley Roberts, Qsource, shared a quarterly community data update. Corley highlighted the work on Sepsis, which is the primary driver for readmissions, and discussed the Transitional Care Management Codes. Corley shared a handout on Transitional Care Management Services. For presentation details and handouts, please visit: <http://buildingabridgetobetterhealth.weebly.com/2017-meeting-summaries.html>, and look under the October 26, 2017 meeting.

Lindsey Jett, Qsource, discussed the statewide Opioid campaign that started in July 2017. A committee has been formed, including representatives from all of the care transition communities. In East TN, Pam Turner, from Ft. Sanders Regional Medical Center, is involved. The committee has met 5 times via conference call. Their first goal is to increase awareness and patient education. If anyone is interested in joining the committee, please contact Lindsey at: ljett@QSource.org.

STATE HEALTH INSURANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SHIP)

Dottie Lyvers and Amanda Johnson, East TN Area Agency on Aging and Disability, shared information about the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). SHIP was created in the early 1990s to provide local assistance for beneficiaries with Medicare. SHIP offers free and

objective counseling, information and enrollment assistance to all Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers. East TN SHIP covers 16 counties in East TN. SHIP does not sell insurance or endorse any company that sells Medicare products.

Open enrollment runs through December 7, 2017. If you know of someone who needs assistance, please have them call (844) 887-7447.

SHIP uses volunteers to assist with calls and plan comparisons. Volunteers receive training. Volunteers are needed throughout the 16 counties to assist beneficiaries. If interested, please contact (844) 887-7447.

For SHIP handouts, visit: <http://buildingabridgetobetterhealth.weebly.com/2017-meeting-summaries.html>, and look under the October 26, 2017 meeting.

NEXT BUILDING A BRIDGE TO BETTER HEALTH COALITION MEETING

January 25, 2018 – 11:30am
