The Orange County Integrative Health Initiative
Live Healthy OC – Empowering a Community of Wellness

Overview of Initiative
In 2014, a partnership was formed between the Health Funders Partnership of Orange County, UC Irvine School of Medicine, the Samueli Foundation, the Susan Samueli Center for Integrative Medicine (SSCIM), and the Coalition of Orange County Community Health Centers (Coalition) to launch an initiative to strengthen the healthcare delivery system and improve health outcomes for the underserved. The initiative, Live Healthy OC – Empowering a Community of Wellness (“Initiative”), supports efforts to transform community health centers from a disease-focused health delivery model to one that focuses on prevention and health creation through the implementation of integrative health practices.

This comprehensive initiative aims to transform the culture, practice and care delivery models of participating clinics serving the underserved from a disease-based management model to a sustainable integrated health approach. The Initiative will support a three-year process for approximately eight Orange County’s clinics that have demonstrated the readiness and capacity to implement an integrative health and medicine delivery model that uses proven evidence-based modalities focused on prevention and health creation.

This Initiative aims to accomplish the following:
1. **Improve health outcomes for economically disadvantaged communities through patient education and self-management skill building and through the use of evidence-based integrative medicine modalities that are less invasive, and support the foundational elements of health and wellness.**
2. **Create a robust and sustainable network of community clinics in Orange County that have the capacity to provide comprehensive health and wellness services and supports for their patients, with an emphasis on whole person patient-centered care.**
3. **Improve the knowledge and skills of CHC providers and staff in the foundational elements of health and wellness and the optimal use of integrative modalities.**
4. **Ensure implementation of financially viable, sustainable and innovative integrative health practices and approaches within each participating clinic, such as use of the group visit, motivational interviewing techniques and paired allopathic-allied health provider models.**
5. **Create a professional learning community of clinics focused on transforming their operations and practices through integrative health, and position the learning community to share best practices to inform the field.**
Clinic Transformation Learning Cohorts

The initiative supports the education and transformation of clinics that have been identified through a competitive selection process. The selected clinics will form two cohorts that will participate in an 18-month learning and implementation process. The first cohort was selected in December 2016 and includes the following clinics:

- Center for Comprehensive Care & Diagnosis of Inherited Blood Disorders (CIBD)
- Children’s Hospital of Orange County, Orange Primary Care Clinic
- North OC Regional Health Foundation
- Serve the People Community Health Center
- Vietnamese Community of Orange County, Inc.

The second cohort will be selected and launch in 2017.

Each cohort will participate in a planned six-month learning program that will educate key clinic staff on the evidence behind and fundamentals of health creation and wellness delivery models. The sites will also engage in a process to identify the transformative change strategies to be tested within the clinic setting. The clinics will receive implementation support from a team of experts in process change and integrative health to support their efforts to embed the changes into their operations. UCI will conduct an evaluation for the duration of the project to measure efficacy of the process, transformative change and patient outcomes.

Support for the Initiative

The Initiative is supported by multiple funders who are committed to creating a health care delivery system for the underserved that has the capacity and tools of integrative health to improve health outcomes across Orange County. The Partnership has supported the Initiative since the early design stages and will continue to provide annual funding support through 2019. The UniHealth Foundation has provided a generous grant to support this initiative over three years. The Partnership is also grateful to the following funders for their generous support of this Initiative:

- Blue Shield Foundation of California
- Kay Family Foundation
- Samueli Foundation
- Children and Families Commission of Orange County
- Kaiser Permanente
- Orange County Community Foundation
- Orange County United Way
- Sisters of St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation
- St. Joseph’s Community Partnership Fund

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