



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