

ACTHIV Changemaker: Incorporation of Integrated Behavioral Health to Meet Psychosocial Needs of People with HIV Living in Eastern North Carolina

David J. Surovchak, PA-C, AAHIVS. Carolina Family Health Centers, Inc.

BACKGROUND

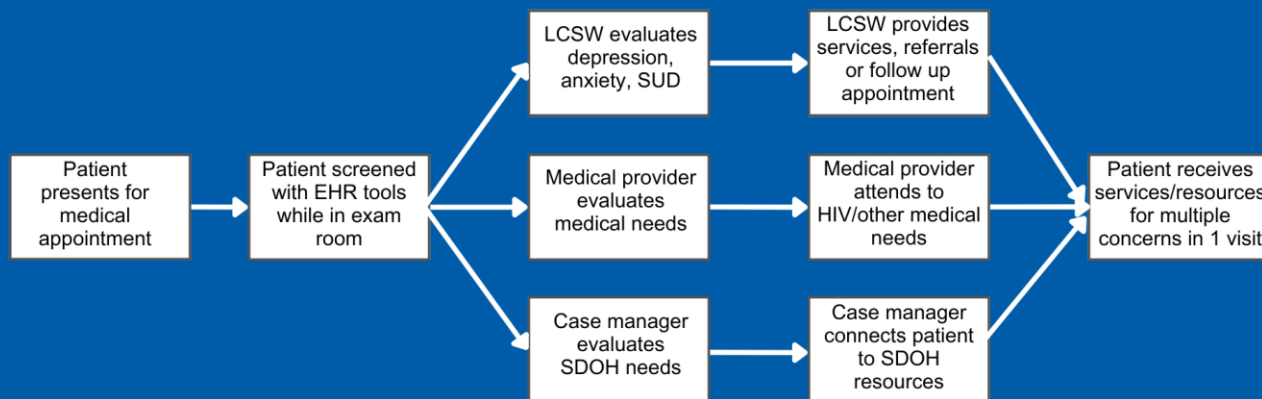
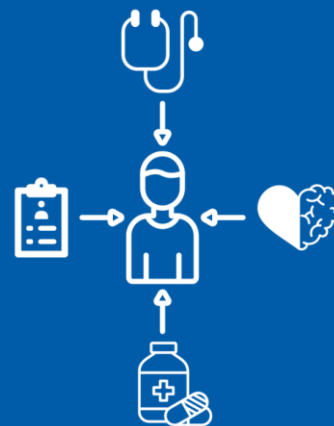
- The Southeastern United States has the highest rates of HIV in the country with some of the greatest psychosocial needs unmet.
- Carolina Family Health Centers, Inc. (CFHC) is a federally qualified health center, migrant health center, and Ryan White grantee in Eastern North Carolina.
- Social determinants of health (SDOH) are conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.
- CFHC's service area is negatively impacted by SDOH such as low income, housing instability, and food insecurity, to name a few.

PURPOSE

- In 2023, CFHC used SDOH to screen 94% of Ryan White patients (541 out of 573) during their annual assessments. SDOH identifies psychosocial barriers focusing on housing, food, transportation, and other barriers. Any areas identified to be "At Risk" are addressed through an appropriate referral.
- **CFHC aimed to improve processes that need to occur when patients have psychosocial needs.**

A patient-centered, multi-disciplinary approach to clinical encounters with PLWH:

- Improves health outcomes,
- Increases access to care; and,
- Addresses underlying factors creating barriers to healthy lifestyles.



REFERENCES

- ¹Heifetz, Ronald A., Marty Linsky, and Alexander Grashow. The Practice of Adaptive Leadership: Tools and Tactics for Changing Your Organization and the World. Harvard Business Press, 2009.
- ²Anderson RA, Bailey DE Jr, Wu B, Corazzini K, McConnell ES, Thygeson NM, Docherty SL. Adaptive leadership framework for chronic illness: framing a research agenda for transforming care delivery. *ANS Adv Nurs Sci.* 2015 Apr-Jun;38(2):83-95. doi: 10.1097/ANS.000000000000063. PMID: 25647829; PMCID: PMC4417005.

METHODS

- Adaptive Leadership is a practical framework that helps individuals and organizations adapt and succeed in challenging environments.¹
- The Adaptive Leadership Framework for Chronic Illness offers specific adaptive leadership strategies to improve patient-provider interactions.²

Step 1 – Identify the technical and adaptive challenges around screening and referrals.

Step 2 – Utilize tools in electronic health records system to screen for SDOH, depression, anxiety and SUD.

Step 3 – Link patients to members of care team who provide resources for screening results.

RESULTS

Established Integrated Behavioral Health by having a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) stationed in the clinical work area during HIV clinic days for referrals from positive screenings. Results are over 1 year.

	Before	After	% Change
Patients Seen by LCSW	97	129	↑33%
Patients Enrolled in MAT	6	11	↑83%
PLWH MAT Visits	12	71	↑492%