

The Bangor Beacon Community (BBC), comprised of 12 Partners and led by EMHS, is working to improve the health of chronically ill people in the Bangor region through sustainable care coordination that is facilitated by health information technology (HIT). More than a dozen additional statewide collaborators are working to ensure that the improved outcomes brought about through BBC learning and health information exchange, are extended throughout the State of Maine. The BBC is supported through a three year, \$12.75 million grant from the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for HIT.

Collaborative Highlights

Care Managers are holding their second Forum on March 10. The Forums provide care managers from both the Bangor Beacon Community and the community at large the opportunity to address barriers and challenges, share best practices, and receive training in a number of relevant areas such as motivational interviewing and health literacy.

Sustainability Retreat to be held on March 9 with Aaron McKethan visiting from ONC to provide expertise to the group. Once complete, the group hopes to have the first pass at a roadmap for sustaining the work of the Bangor Beacon Community.

The Health IT and Meaningful Use Committee, chaired by Dev Culver, was created to support the Beacon quality, cost, and population health goals through the use of Health IT. This group is focusing initially on optimizing automation that supports the care manager work flow, measurement of clinical impact, and developing a community wide plan for supporting attainment of Stage 1 Meaningful Use by providers participating in the Bangor Beacon Community.

Patient Centered Strategy

Mental Health – Community Health and Counseling completed site initiation and is actively recruiting patients. Acadia Hospital hired its care manager. Acadia Hospital has developed a pilot program to enhance traditional care management with text messages. Dale Hamilton will speak with a statewide behavioral health group on March 15 to discuss some of the successes and challenges addressed under Beacon.

Home Health –The group charter was approved by the Clinical Leadership Committee. Enrollment is projected to start on April 1.

St. Joseph Healthcare site initiation is complete and their new care manager has begun seeing patients.

Challenges/Opportunities

Enrollment – Beacon Care managers have enrolled 387 patients toward the goal of 1,500. Research coordinators have enrolled 33 control group patients to date toward a goal of 750. More than 3,800 patients have been screened. We are actively recruiting patients for the study. Prospective patients should call 973-9070 for eligibility.

Thank you all for your continued support and enthusiasm!

Feedback

We value your input, please let us know if we can improve these updates and as always you can find us on-line at: www.bangorbeaconcommunity.org
<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Bangor-Beacon-Community/132153326834441>
<http://twitter.com/BangorBeacon>
<http://www.youtube.com/user/BangorBeacon>

Submitted by Catherine Bruno, Executive Sponsor

Bangor Beacon Community Partners

EMHS

The Acadia Hospital

Community Health
and Counseling

Eastern Maine
Community College

Eastern Maine
HomeCare

Eastern Maine
Medical Center

HealthInfoNet

Maine Primary
Care Association

Penobscot
Community
Health Care

Ross Manor

St. Joseph
Healthcare

Stillwater Healthcare

