



NEW SERIES!

Fundamentals of Social  
Determinants of Health  
in Hospitals:

# Improving Health Equity Across Colorado

Widespread and enduring health care disparities have been illuminated and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and systemic inequalities are preventing Coloradans from achieving the best possible health outcomes. The pandemic has made clear the increased opportunity for hospitals to take collective action to directly affect social determinants of health (SDoH) and improve health equity across the state.

The Association's new learning series – Fundamentals of Social Determinants of Health in Hospitals – will convene hospitals from around the state and create a safe space for learning and dialogue on topics related to SDoH and their impact on health equity. Providing insight on contributors to SDoH, the series will lay the foundation for an ongoing conversation and inspire future work aimed at addressing health disparities. Participants will gain an understanding of the opportunity to improve health equity in Colorado hospitals and action-oriented tools to immediately make a difference in their organizations.

This 11-session virtual learning series is designed to be highly collaborative and includes a mix of keynote presentations from industry experts, panel discussions from hospital and health equity leaders, and breakout sessions to support building an equity-focused network across the state. Sessions are designed as unique learning opportunities, but participants attending each session in the series will gain valuable background knowledge that will aid in continuing the conversation and securing meaningful change in the health care environment. All sessions will be recorded and made available to series registrants.



# Fundamentals of Social Determinants of Health in Hospitals

## Who Should Attend?

All health care professionals are invited to participate, including health system leaders, hospital executives and board members, all clinical staff, quality professionals, case managers, social workers, care coordinators, data analysts, and coders.

## Session Schedule:

- Session 1:** Noon – 1 p.m. on Thursday, July 28
- Session 2:** Noon – 1 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 11
- Session 3:** Noon – 1 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 25
- Session 4:** Noon – 1 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 8
- Session 5:** Noon – 1 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 22
- Session 6:** Noon – 1:15 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 13
- Session 7:** Noon – 1 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 27
- Session 8:** Noon – 1 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 10
- Session 9:** Noon – 1 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17
- Session 10:** Noon – 1 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 1
- Session 11:** Noon – 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 8

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)

**Early Bird Registration Fee** (*Deadline: Friday, July 15*)  
CHA members..... \$95 for the full series

**Standard Registration Fee** (*Deadline: Tuesday, July 26*)  
CHA members..... \$195 for the full series

## For questions or help with registration:

Contact Peggy McCreary, CHA senior education and events coordinator, at [Peggy.McCreary@cha.com](mailto:Peggy.McCreary@cha.com).

## Session Details:

### **Session 1: Introduction to Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health for Hospitals**

**Noon – 1 p.m. | Thursday, July 28**

Social determinants of health exist all around us and include demographic factors, economic conditions, education level, and physical infrastructure. While SDoH and challenges related to health equity are experienced by individuals, they also exist at the community and systems levels. This introductory session will begin to build clarity around important definitions, provide crucial context on the role of hospitals and health systems in addressing SDoH and health equity, and establish a framework for improvement by using SDoH-specific data.

### **Session 2: “Nothing About Us Without Us” – Listening to the Voices of Richly Diverse Coloradans**

**Noon – 1 p.m. | Thursday, Aug. 11**

Building a deep and personal understanding of social determinants of health and health equity is critical to identifying opportunities for improvement throughout the health care system. A panel discussion will bring together

Coloradans who have directly experienced negative health outcomes related to SDoH and inequities in the delivery system. Through passionate stories and lived experience, patients and caregivers will share how hospitals and health systems are uniquely positioned to provide support and engagement in these important areas.

### **Session 3: Reduction of Racial and Ethnic Disparities: Best Practices for Participating in HQIP**

**Noon – 1 p.m. | Thursday, Aug. 25**

The Hospital Quality Incentive Payment (HQIP) program is an incentive-based quality program administered by the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF). The program provides hospitals with additional funds based on performance in specific measures related to health outcomes. The Reduction of Racial and Ethnic Disparities measure is intended to assess a hospital's readiness to recognize and prevent disparities and respond to and learn from situations where health inequities occur. A panel will share best practices from Colorado hospitals that have implemented organization-wide methods to eliminate disparities.



# Fundamentals of Social Determinants of Health in Hospitals

## Session 4:

### **The Role of Race, Ethnicity, and Language (REAL) Data in Advancing Health Equity**

**Noon – 1 p.m. | Thursday, Sept. 8**

Obtaining accurate patient-level data related to race and ethnicity is imperative to measuring approaches to improving care delivery and eliminating health inequities. Barriers to obtaining this data at the point of care and analyzing it appropriately on the backend leave unanswered questions about how to best dedicate resources and serve diverse communities. Join Dr. Romana Hasnain-Wynia, chief research officer at Denver Health and a national expert on capturing vital race and ethnicity data in electronic medical records, for this highly informative and actionable didactic session.

## Session 5:

### **Measuring the Impact of Social Care Interventions**

**Noon – 1 p.m. | Thursday, Sept. 22**

As the health care industry shifts to value-based care models, tracking outcomes and measuring impact is increasingly important. When addressing individuals' social determinants of health, organizations that consider the full continuum of social care can more effectively identify the most vulnerable, conduct outreach, and close the loop. This session will define a framework for this approach by discussing how to leverage predictive analytics, a closed-loop referral platform, and social care investment tracking technology.

## Session 6:

### **Screening of *Toxic: A Black Woman's Story* and Improving Equity for Colorado Birthing People**

**Noon – 1:15 p.m. | Thursday, Oct. 13**

The United States has some of the worst maternal health outcomes among developed countries, with Black, American Indian, and Alaskan Native women having notable disparities that include disproportionate rates of preterm birth and infant death. This session will provide a virtual screening of the award-winning short film *Toxic: A Black Woman's Story*. The powerful film depicts the cumulative

effects and consequences of chronic stress related to health inequities endured by the main character in her daily life.

The movie has been screened by hundreds of health care organizations nationwide, including the American Hospital Association. The session will also include time for reflection and moderated discussion.

## Session 7:

### **Creating Infrastructure for SDOH Information Exchange**

**Noon – 1 p.m. | Thursday, Oct. 27**

Social Health Information Exchanges (HIEs) are sophisticated and integrated technological systems capable of connecting health providers with services that address social determinants of health. Social HIEs support care coordination, promote consumer and family engagement, empower health literacy, and support patients' holistic journey to achieving optimal health outcomes. A panel discussion will explore current efforts in Colorado to implement the state's Health Information Technology Roadmap, including an interoperable social HIE to support the wellbeing of Coloradans and their communities.

## Session 8:

### **Using Hospital-Provided Data to Empower Population-Level Analytics for Social Change**

**Noon – 1 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 10**

Assessing social determinants of health at a population level is important to identifying opportunities for systems improvement, but there are limited standardized approaches to measuring the impact of SDoH. One such approach considers the use of z-codes, a subset of International Classification of Diseases (ICD)-10 codes that could be used to attach SDoH to medical records and capture population information in claims data. Recent communication from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) suggests that z-codes may be used in the future to measure SDoH efforts, potentially impacting value-based payment programs. During this panel discussion, leaders from other state hospital associations will discuss process optimization and reporting of population-level analytics using z-codes in their respective states.





# Fundamentals of Social Determinants of Health in Hospitals

## **Session 9: Learning from Experience: How Colorado Hospitals are Working to Achieve Health Equity**

**Noon – 1 p.m. | Thursday, Nov. 17**

Across Colorado, hospitals and health systems are taking steps to improve processes and outcomes related to the societal factors that impact the overall health of individuals and the community. This session will highlight the innovative work of organizations across the state. Participants will learn how these organizations are working to systematically address social determinants of health from strategy conception to implementation and beyond.

## **Session 10: SDOH from a Payer Perspective**

**Noon – 1 p.m. | Thursday, Dec. 1**

The health care system continues to evolve with a focus on social determinants of health and health equity, funding innovations and designing value-based payment models that contribute to successful initiatives. This session

will provide the payer perspective on the importance of addressing SDOH and inequities in the health care system, with insight into the current fiscal landscape and potential opportunities in the future to develop and further implement holistic approaches to care while being stewards of limited resources.

## **Session 11: Putting It All Together Across Colorado Hospitals**

**Noon – 1:30 p.m. | Thursday, Dec. 8**

Now that participants in previous sessions have learned the basic building blocks for improving social determinants of health and health inequities, this final session will help participants as they begin to formulate a plan of action for their hospitals and communities. The session will begin with an overview of the Health Equity Roadmap created by the American Hospital Association Institute for Diversity and Health Equity, followed by a facilitated discussion to help determine next steps for the participants' respective organizations.



For more about this series, contact:

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