

---

---

# Community Health Network Transformation Project

— Prepared For: Community Health —  
and Access Committee

---

---

# Agenda

1. Context
2. Systems Overview
3. Pilot Program
4. Transformation Grant
5. Questions & Discussion

# Terminology and Acronyms

- **Social Determinant of Health (SDOH)** : Conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, and play that affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes (CDC)
- **Health Related Social Needs (HRSN)**: An individual's unmet, adverse social needs that contribute to poor health resulting from their community's underlying SDOH
- **Community Based Organization (CBO)**: An organization of and driven mainly by individuals within the relevant community, with representation of institutions which provide scientific, financial and social support.
- **Case Management**: Refers to designated activities for the purpose of assessing and supporting a client's HRSN needs. Often used interchangeably with care coordination, navigation, and care management
- **Closed Loop Referral System**: a closed-loop referral is one that successfully secures the right resources for patients at the right time, ensuring that the patients' needs are met.
- **Community Information Exchange (CIE)**: A CIE® is an ecosystem comprised of multidisciplinary network partners that use a shared language, a resource database, and an integrated technology platform to deliver enhanced community care planning (CIE San Diego)

# Social Needs Landscape



Providers understand that unmet social needs are major drivers of adverse health outcomes.

They want to connect their patients with community resources, but have not had an effective way to do this.



Patients feel that their providers are not aware of the many factors that influence their health.

They want providers to ask about their social needs, offer support, and adjust how they provide care.



We need to standardize our approach to addressing the health related social needs within our community.

*\*Source: [cayugahealth.org/about/chp/](http://cayugahealth.org/about/chp/)*

# Lessons learned

From: San Diego 211, CIE Michigan Task Force, Accountable Health Communities Model

1. Few precedents
2. Technology is not a singular solution
3. More data doesn't mean better outcomes
4. Closed loop referrals are not the only use case for a CIE



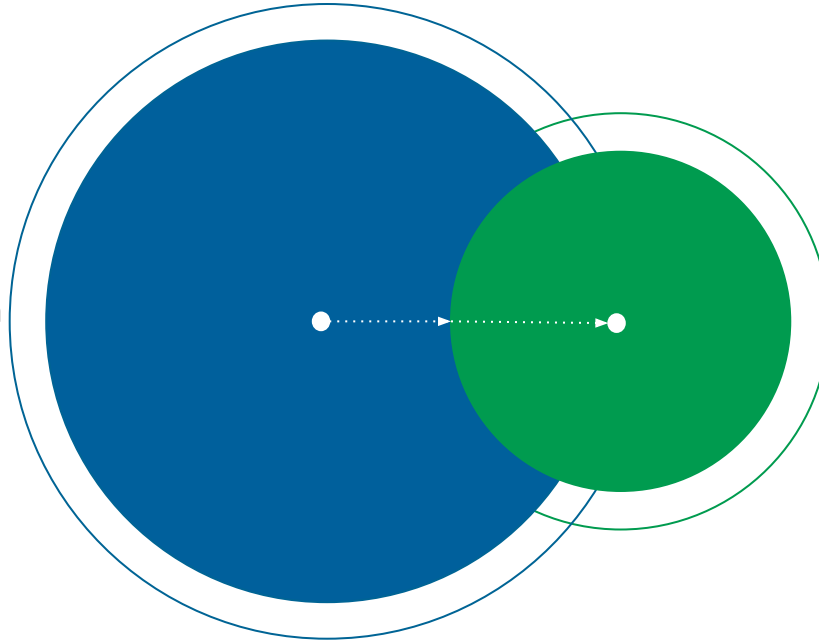
## PtRefs: Referral Tracking and Management System

PtRefs is a referral management system that tracks referrals going into or coming out of one of Cayuga Health System's practices. It is an efficient way of tracking referral status and completion.

# PtRefs: Referral Tracking and Management System

## MACRO

- Understand and analyze the flow of referrals to and from an office.
- Visualize where referrals are coming/going.
- Understand how many referrals are made in a week.
- Access to the destinations (timeliness of visits)



## MICRO

- Enable the user to see live updates to a referral status.
- Clearer picture of where a patient is in the process of being seen by destination provider/CBO.
- Reductions in sending follow up emails and/or phone calls about patient's referral status.

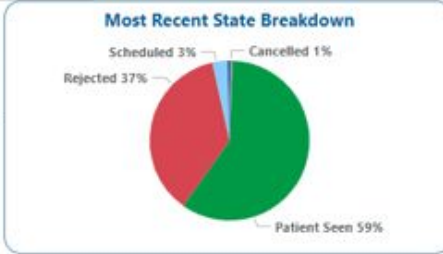
# PtRefs: Referral Tracking and Management System



Create Date  
 1/1/2023 10/31/2023

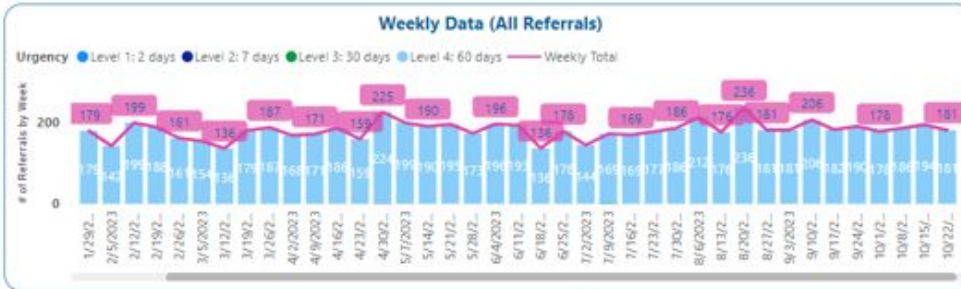
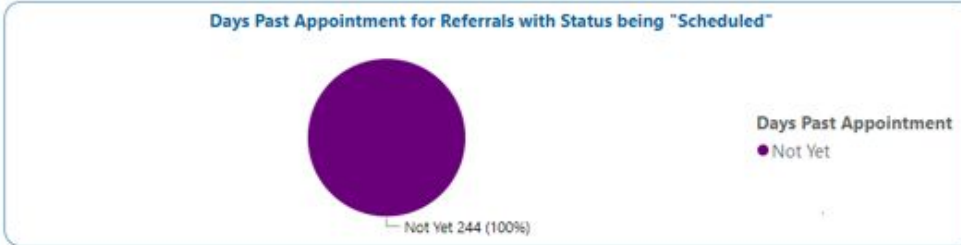
Practice:

Total Number of Referrals: 7898



### Count of Referrals by Origination

Sending Practice	Count of Referrals
	1474
	1195
	520
	386
	362
	250
	215
	202
	176
	148
	145
<b>Total</b>	<b>7898</b>



Reports allow practices to see the amount of referrals and where they are being sent from.



# PtRefs: Referral Tracking and Management System



Create Date

1/1/2023

10/31/2023



# of referrals

7898

# of referrals that have an appointment date before the create day (excluded from the charts and tables below)

22

Scheduled within Urgency Level Window?



Reports create visible data trends by practice for scheduling patient appointments.

# PtRefs: Referral Tracking and Management System

## What are benefits for participating organizations?

01

### Process improvement in administrative workflow

- Reduction of back and forth phone calls between practices about patients status.
- Streamline note sharing between offices.
- Clean and clear work list

02

### Referral Visibility

- Quickly identify appointment availability issues
- Triage urgent referrals efficiently

03

### Referral Loop Closure

- Support the referral of patient/client to the correct provider/office.
- Receive updates about patient/client being seen at referred destination.

# Core Requirements

01

## Capability for Data Exchange

- Adopt standards for data exchange to enable interoperability among organizations

02

## Resource Directory

- Accurate source of resource directory information will be available and maintained

03

## Data Aggregation









- Enable collection of longitudinal data about clients' social needs, risks, service-related activities and results

# Social Needs Screening & Referral Pilot

**Social Needs Screening**

We care about everything that shapes your health. Please fill out this form and ask if you have any questions. We can let you know who to call for assistance. We also have staff who can help you find the best resources to meet your needs.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Language: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions	Yes	No
 In the last year, did you ever eat less than you wanted to because there was <b>no food around</b> or <b>not enough money</b> for food?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 In the last year, <b>has the electric, gas, oil, or water company told you they would shut off these services</b> in your home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Are you worried that in the next 2 months you may not have enough <b>money for rent or to pay for housing</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Is a need for <b>child care making it hard for you to work or study</b> ? (leave blank if you do not have children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 In the last year, has it been hard to see a doctor or get medications <b>because of cost</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 In the last year, have you ever had <b>trouble getting a ride</b> to medical appointments or the pharmacy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Are <b>instructions, pamphlets, or other written materials</b> from your doctor or pharmacy hard to read or not clear?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Do you often feel lonely?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Multi-year pilot project to screen all patients annually for unmet social needs in primary care practices, launched in 2021
- Collaboration with Cayuga Medical Center's Internal Medicine Residency Program, local CBOs and the Cornell Center for Health Equity
- In 2022, the pilot was expanded to enable direct referrals to CBOs
- An interdisciplinary team was formed to co-design the referral workflow
- New workflow includes a closed-loop system

# Pilot Process Flow

Refer

Receive referrals of new clients after clinical social needs screening

Assess

Contact client to learn more about health & social needs, in addition to any current social service utilization / exploration

Connect

Connect clients to local resources to meet HRSN needs

Support

Follow up to ensure client needs are met and complete warm hand-offs

Document

Document all case management activities

**\*Limitations: Referrals are one way, not bi/multi-directional**

# Pilot Results

**26,000**

screenings at 7 practices  
since 2021

**22%**

of patients screened identify  
unmet social need

**13,000**

Indicates the potential for  
future referral volume  
*\*100% screening rate of Cayuga  
Patients @ 22% unmet need*

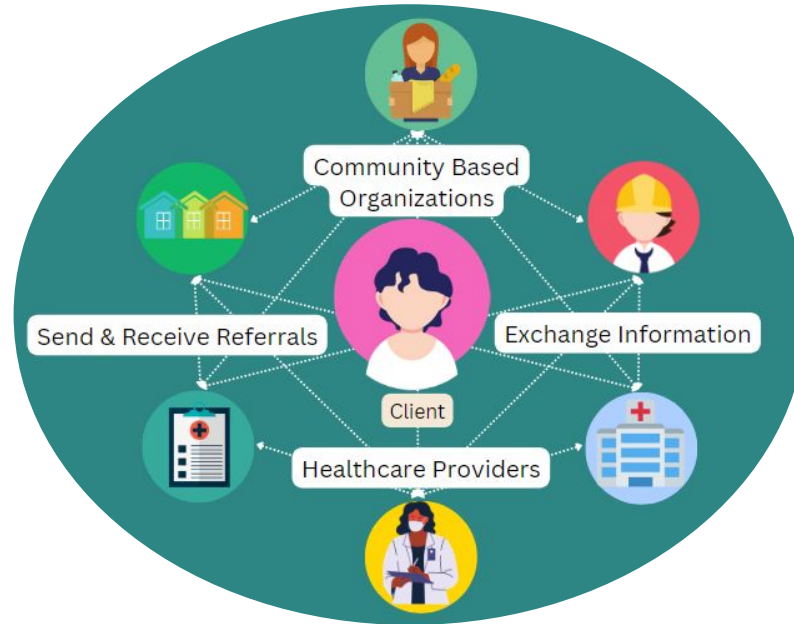
**Most common need is social support followed by finances, housing,  
food, transportation, utility, literacy, childcare and social support**

\*Data collection spans January 2021 - YTD 2023

\*\*Analysis conducted by Cayuga Health Partners

# Transformation Grant

How can we streamline, improve and deepen the connection that we have as community-based organizations between ourselves and with healthcare providers?



# Boundaries & Scope

## What it is

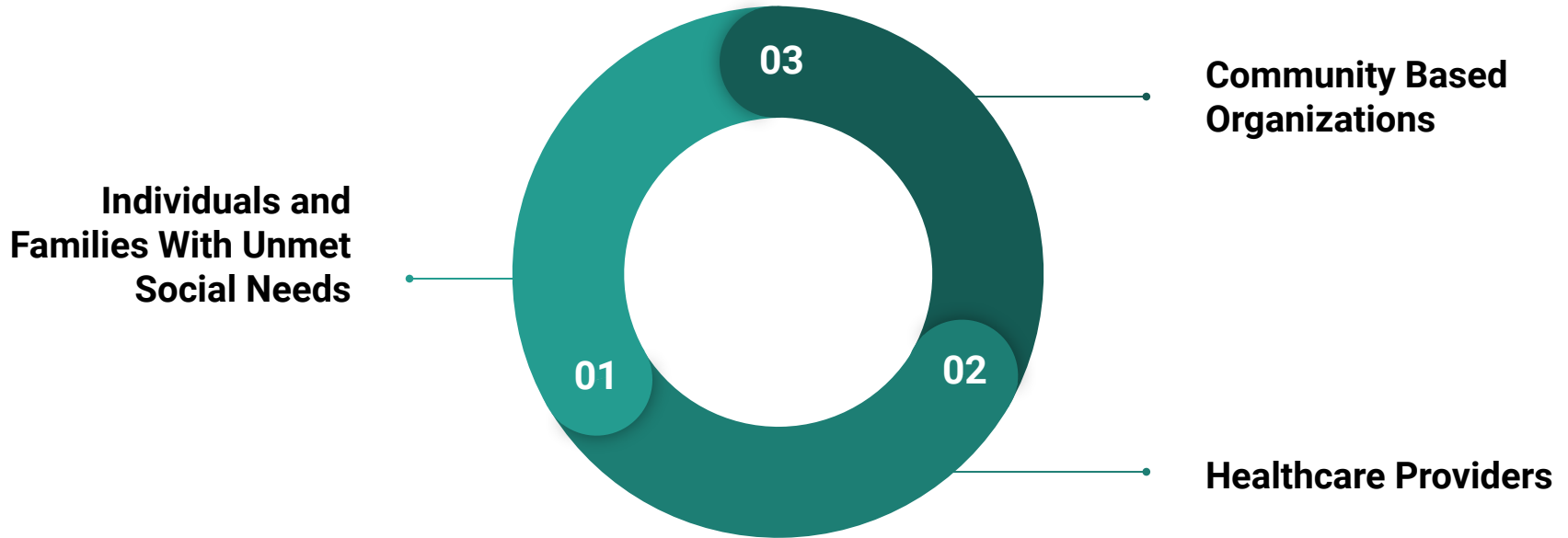
- ✓ Will benefit anyone in the area who is a client/ patient of the participating organizations
- ✓ Opportunity to co-design and create innovative network
- ✓ Build relationships and integrate with clinical / non-clinical providers

## What it is not

- ✗ Confined to Medicaid beneficiaries or specific insurance provider
- ✗ Seeking/ subscribing to “off the shelf” product solution
- ✗ Project is not service specific/ population specific



# Who will this impact?



# Cohort 1 Characteristics

- Organization has expertise in a priority HRSN service area
- Organization serves a priority population
- Organizations that are leaders in the county, who hold trust with partners and community members
- Organizational leadership is willing to commit the time and resources to participating in the pilot program



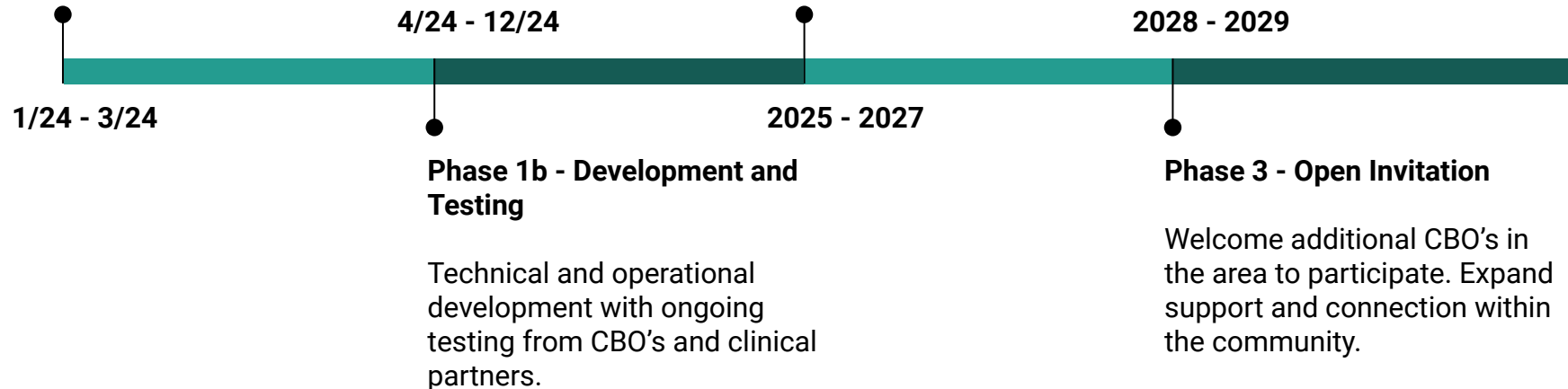
# Proposed Timeline

## Phase 1a - Initial Codesign

Group meetings with iterative feedback from CBO's & clinical partners in Cohort 1.

## Phase 2 - Cohort 2

Onboarding of Cohort 2. Continue referral management improvements.



---

---

# Questions?

— Contact: [amoore@hsctc.org](mailto:amoore@hsctc.org) or [lprince@cayugamed.org](mailto:lprince@cayugamed.org) —

---

---