# Clinician Involvement in Networks

Southern Rural Access Program Delta State Grantee Conference April 25, 2003 Memphis, TN

## Clinician Involvement in Networks Roles

- Imprimatur
- Connector
- Advocate/Broker
- Leader
- Clinical
  - Occasional clinical services at "free clinic"
  - Clinical services at major clinical sites FQHC, PH
  - accept limited referral for episodes of care
  - mainstream network patients into practice
- Think beyond just "safety net" align <u>all</u> community health care resources

#### What Clinicians Want in Indigent Care Network Role

- To practice quality medicine with minimum of intrusion or hassle
- To be decent professional citizens get back to why they entered profession
- Better clinical outcomes and less practice hassle with slow-pay/no-pay rational!!!!
- Willing to forego revenue if for low-income, selfpay and system support
- "Fair and finite" role

#### What Clinicians Want in Indigent Care Network Role

- System to support patient's adherence to professional/practice expectations
  - Truly needy
  - Keep appointments
  - Continuous primary care
  - Have sufficient referral network primary/specialists
  - Sufficient access to procedures, pharmaceuticals

### What Clinicians Want in Indigent Care Network Role

- Patient navigation
- Link to needed behavioral health/ substance abuse services
- Link to social and other adjunctive services
   Hospital participation
- Track activities and report on clinician and patient experience
- A little recognition

#### Overall Strategies for Clinician Recruitment into Network Activities

- First, believe that clinicians are intrinsically interested
- Run on clinicians interests as mutual wins
- Identify and engage first inclined physicians
- Invaluable to have clinical peers from other networks in action to join dialogue
- Dialogue around request and offers to surface basis for relationship
- "Under what circumstances would you..."

Overall Strategies for Clinician Recruitment into Network Activities

- You must give the initiative back to clinicians to discuss among themselves – months
- Follow-up earnestly to meet agreed items and otherwise continue to dev. network
  Plan for going to scale -> "Fair and Finite"
  Be sure system and relationships are help honest – avoid "bait and switch"

### Clinician Involvement in Networks in Good Company

- Project Access Buncombe County, NC
- 100 communities in stages of replication
  - 12 fully functional Emmanuel, GA; Greenville, SC; Marquette, MI; Pitt County, NC; Pittsylvania, VA; Richmond, GA; Salt Lake, UT; Sedgwick, KS; Shawnee, KS; Wake, NC; Watauga, NC
  - 20 well into implementation
  - 60+ on track

#### American Project Access Network (APAN)

### At the End of the Day....

Through its actions and inactions, a community decides the level of health and well-being of its residents.

It is only the level of cooperation in a community that limits its capacity to accord its people a reasonable prospect for health.

As for my community, we decide to ...

# What is the Key to Your Commitment?

- Do you truly believe that better community coordination across sectors will give us better circumstances in my community— just like the growing number of communities across the country?
- In all honesty, for what or whom are you waiting before you take personal action on this issue in a deep and determined way?
- What earnest request would you like to make of another to secure/leverage your deep commitment in return?

# Thank You and Best of Luck

Eric T. Baumgartner, MD, MPH

 Louisiana Public Health Institute
 Consultant – GA Health Policy Center
 ebaumgartner@LPHI.org
 (504) 813- 3688