



Purpose

The **Moving Health Care Upstream (MHCU)** initiative aims to identify, support, connect and highlight innovative, multi-sector and multi-disciplinary partnerships that achieve better health outcomes in communities. There is an urgent need to complement quality health care with services and supports in other sectors that address the upstream social, behavioral and environmental determinants of health in the communities and neighborhoods where people live, work and play. As our health system rapidly changes, there is an opportunity to shine a light on what works and how, what's promising, and what roles various individuals and organizations must play in order to narrow persistent and costly disparities in health outcomes that affect too many children, families and communities. MHCU reflects a shared vision for a system that improves health at the individual and community level. Achieving this mission will require new partnerships among health care, public health and non-health sectors to promote ideas and practices that emphasize objectives associated with the Triple Aim¹:

- Improved community-wide health.
- Improved patient care.
- Lower cost models of delivering and financing services.

MHCU will achieve these objectives by seeking out the most promising community health and health delivery innovators and providing them with a structured platform to share, learn and innovate together. By sharing, designing and testing the new strategies necessary to achieve a well functioning health delivery system, MHCU initiatives will catalyze change by:

1. Co-creating a framework for what an ideal health system should be able to achieve, the design principles it must embody and the innovation and improvement strategies that will drive the process of change.
2. Bringing together leading experts, organizations and communities who are actively trying to achieve transformative health system change and helping them refine successful tools and strategies through a Collaborative Innovation Network approach.
3. Developing strategic communications to highlight, position and advance strategies proven successful for moving health care upstream.
4. Analyzing policy and advocating to facilitate the advancement of this agenda at the local, state and national level.

Who We Are

MHCU, funded by a grant from The Kresge Foundation, is led by a team of collaborators from UCLA and Nemours. The work will be supported by the expertise of an advisory board with extraordinary experience in tackling innovation, improvement and systems redesign.

How it Works: The MHCU Learning System

Collaborative Innovation Network (CoIN): Testing and Innovating The CoIN, made up of communities, community health centers, and community health systems across the U.S. who have committed to working with MCHU on a priority topic, will develop and test promising tools and strategies aimed at improving community health outcomes through health delivery innovations. MCHU will provide CoIN participants with technical support, coaching and facilitation to guide the testing of innovations in their organizations and systems. This group will work intensely to learn 'what works' and share

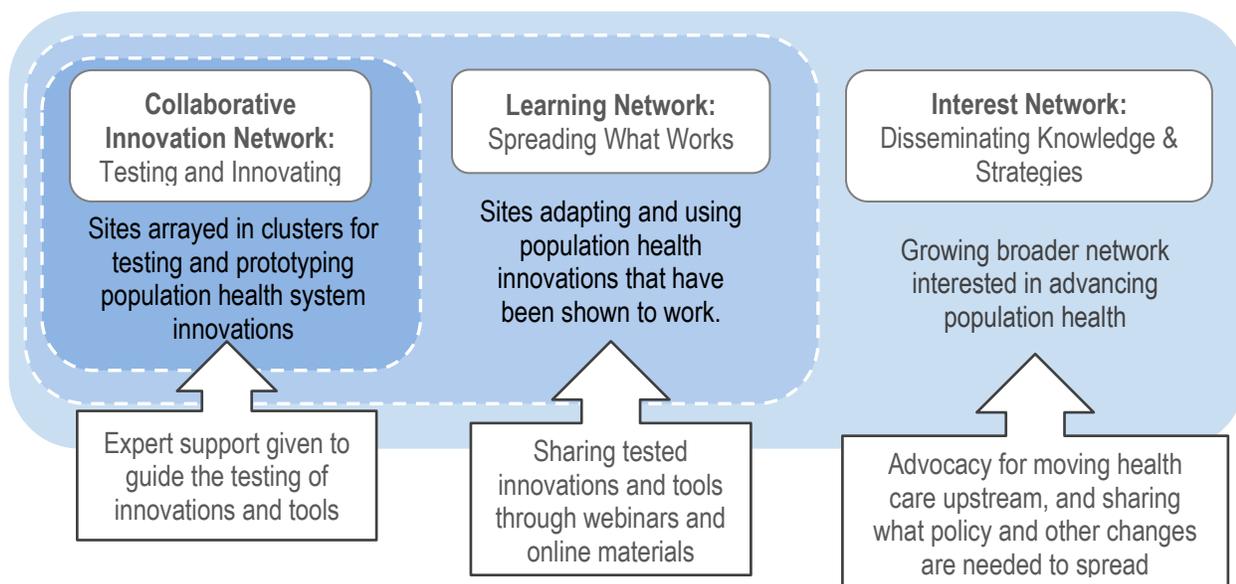
¹ Berwick, DM, et al. (2008) The Triple Aim: Care, Health and Cost. *Health Affairs*. May-Jun; 27(3):759-69.

more broadly with the field. They will also help to identify policy barriers that may hamper wider adoption of these innovative strategies.

Learning Network: Spreading What Works The Learning Network will include organizations and networks interested in adopting innovations that have been shown to work. MHCU will harness and share best and promising practices in improving community health with this group. We will do this by providing participants with content expertise through webinars and other online materials and methods that familiarize interested organizations and systems with what works in community health system redesign. The Learning Network will enable participants to share their ideas and experiences with community health innovations with an emphasis on sharing ideas that have generated positive results and impact.

Interest Network: Disseminating Knowledge and Diffusing Strategies The Interest Network will include community organizations, health systems, funding agencies, foundations, policymakers, academics and other key stakeholders who have expressed an interest in the adoption and spread of innovative community health delivery strategies. MHCU will share what works with these stakeholders to increase expectations of what is possible, highlight what needs to change, and inspire the motivation to change policies and practices. MHCU will assemble existing information and innovations to advise legislators and other decision makers on how to break down policy barriers in order to facilitate wider implementation of effective community and preventive health strategies. The accelerated dissemination of 'lessons learned' from innovators in the field will help focus the policy, practice and advocacy tactics necessary to sustain a preventive and community focused health system transformation.

Moving Health Care Upstream Networks



Broader Aims

The initiative will demonstrate and communicate to relevant stakeholders the specific policy, finance and organizational changes necessary for bold health innovations to take hold across the U.S., particularly in communities that experience the greatest disparities in health outcomes. This initiative is designed to have ripple effects that extend beyond the communities participating to achieve a health system that holistically examines how medical care and other community organizations can best integrate their expertise and assets to capitalize on solutions that will result in improved health and significant savings over the long-term.

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