



DATE: May 31, 2017

House Majority Policy Committee Hearing on the Central PA Food Bank

PaWS: Pantries and Wellness Support Penn State Health's Collaboration with Central PA Food Bank

How Partnership Began

- 2014- ACA Requirement for Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Implementation Strategy
- Priorities- access to health care, mental health, health lifestyle
- Looked at location of pantries, zip codes, and Community Need Index (CNI) scores
- Selected Mary's Helpers at Steelton/ Prince of Peace Parish for our first pantry and currently serve 7 pantries

Meeting Basic Needs

- Many clients are only able to meet basic needs and have not connected to health care
- By attending pantries monthly: build trust, identify their health needs, and give personalized, recurrent education with reinforcement
- Culturally-appropriate targeted messages
- Interdisciplinary team of health care providers- physicians, nurses, students, support staff
- External partners- Penn State Extension, Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute (PPI), police, corporate sponsors

Objectives

- Measurably improve health: identification of untreated health conditions
- Better care: implement evidenced- based, individualized health education
- Lower cost: access to primary care

Monthly Health Education with Penn State Extension- Collective Impact

- Nutritional education with tomato planting
- Flu shots with handwashing
- Heart Smart with low salt diet education
- Rethink Your Drink with infused water tastings

Client Stories

Summer Lunch Assistance Program for Steelton, Prince of Peace Parish, "Kids Café"

Next Steps

- Template for other health care systems
- Expansion to other food pantries in Central PA
- ASCVD Initiative (Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease)
- Emergency, non-perishable food boxes
- Research

Outcomes

- Community Benefit Inventory for Social Accountability (CBISA) software
- FY 2017