

2011 Summit Innovations Worksheet

Title of Innovation

Accountable Community Wellness Organization

Brief Description

The mission is to create a Wellness Village (not a medical home). A Wellness Village promotes the health of the whole community throughout its members' lifetimes. This addresses the central manifestation of ill health: isolation, loneliness, and loss of meaningful participation in the community. This is found to be the basis of recovery from mental illness and substance use conditions. The Wellness Community is governed by members of the community who inform an advisory committee of work and of needs. The committee will hire individuals to assist as requested by the community. Those individuals will demonstrate the values of recovery, resiliency, and wellness. Change occurs in a manner similar to the town hall meetings that take place in the northeastern US – consensus driven.

The community will bring in all the innovative approaches developed by those with lived experiences (us) with recovery/wellness such as personal budgeting for flexible person-driven choice, life coaching, shared decision making, alternative healing approaches, green housing, shared community space, co-housing options, and opportunities for companionship.

Target Population

Members are a geographic grouping of persons from diverse backgrounds intending to form and promoting formation of a cohesive, sustainable community based on wellness principles.

Why is This a Disruptive Innovation?

Integrates person into natural networks creating a wellness community rather than paid sick care and paid supports. This will truly hold health costs down because the incentive is to create, support, and contribute to the wellness of the whole community rather than purchase sickness services.

Benefits?

- Reduced costs.
- Health community.

Challenges?

Funding?

Funding based on a consolidated case rate per year, per member paid by his/her insurance company, Medicaid, Medicare, VA, and donations/investment by individuals and foundations, especially during start-up period.

First Steps to Take?

1. Draw up a plan.
2. Engage insurance companies in dialogue.
3. Pilot with private funds.