

# PRIMARY CARE TRAINING ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

## *Awardee Profile: Southern Illinois University*

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|------------------------|---|
| Organization           | <b>Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University (SIU) School of Medicine (SOM)'s Physician Assistant (PA) Training Program</b> |
| Principal Investigator | <b>Janet R. Albers, M.D.</b><br>jalbers@siumed.edu<br>217-545-0200  |
| Partners               | N/A   |

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

Trainee Group(s) and Discipline(s) Targeted

- Advanced practice students: physician assistant
- Medical or pre-doctoral students
- Residents: family medicine

Primary project objectives

- Develop an interprofessional training model for population health and systems thinking for PA students, medical students, and family medicine residents with the goal of meeting rural health care needs, including addressing the social determinants of health, thereby enhancing quality health outcomes and reducing cost.

### EVALUATION OVERVIEW

Evaluator contact information

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HRSA Priority Outcomes

- Rate of graduates/program completers practicing in primary care, at least 1 year after program completion.
- Rate of graduates/program completers practicing in underserved areas, at least 1 year after program completion.
- Patient service provided by trainees and faculty at participating PCTE clinical training sites.
- Quality of care provided by trainees and faculty at participating PCTE clinical training sites.
- Cost of care provided by trainees and faculty at participating PCTE clinical training sites.



## EVALUATION OVERVIEW

*Continued*

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### Measures and Tools

- A pre- and post-test survey instrument will be designed and administered to SIU SOM and PA faculty who will be involved in the intercollaborative project.
  - Perceptions of each other's educational goals, career roles, and change over the course of the project: pre- and post-test evaluations will be administered to all SIU medical students, FCM residents, PA students, and faculty within these programs.
  - Modules: Short feedback questions at the end of each session to be analyzed for ongoing revision of curriculum.
  - Synchronous education: Debriefing at the completion of each activity analyzed for effectiveness as well as ongoing revision of curriculum.
  - Monthly population health lecture and asynchronous education: Quality data that matches each lecture. During the first year of the grant, this program will continue, but these lectures will be matched to the asynchronous learning modules.
  - Learning lab: multiple evaluations.
  - Other direct evaluations include reduction of unnecessary ED visits and hospitalizations and determination of cost savings and program feasibility.
  - Gaps in patient services and access: multiple ongoing evaluations of the team by the patient including patient satisfaction surveys through the SOM practice plan.
  - Yearly measure the rate of graduates who pursue primary care practice or practice in a medically underserved area within the SIU FCM residency and PA program at least one year after program completion.
  - For SIU medical students, similar data will be obtained through the American Council for Graduate Medical Education match results.
  - Annual evaluations of rates of learners in all three programs who are classified at graduation as minority or disadvantaged, and/or have a veteran status.
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## ABSTRACT

*As submitted with proposal*

Southern Illinois University (SIU) School of Medicine (SOM)'s PA training program is lead applicant for this grant and plans to develop and implement a sustainable interprofessional training model for Population Health and Systems Thinking for PA students, medical students and family medicine residents in training. Collaborators for this grant are the SIU SOM undergraduate medical program as well as the FCM residency training programs. The ultimate goal is to meet rural health care needs while addressing the social determinants of health, thereby enhancing quality outcomes and reducing costs.

Outcomes are improved and costs reduced when a strong primary care foundation to the health care system is present. Primary care resources have waned in recent years, and there will soon be a profound shortage. Now is the time for expansion of efforts to increase the primary care workforce; and collaborative practice in highly effective teams is critical. Clinicians need to be well trained in the breadth and depth of primary care and in new and innovative models to promote wellness, chronic illness management, patient safety, and cost effectiveness while reducing health disparities.

As a nationally known leader in innovative medical education methods, SIU SOM will initiate faculty development in Population Health and Systems Thinking, followed by state of the art curriculum design using asynchronous web-based learning modules and self-designed videos to build foundational knowledge in learners of all three disciplines – PAs, medical students and FCM residents. Learners will participate in interprofessional team-based curriculum through problem based learning sessions early in the first year of their training.

## **ABSTRACT**

### *Continued*

Development of a team based Medical Home Learning Lab at the Carbondale PA Hub site within the FCM residency training site will offer clinical application of skills. The team will be enhanced with care coordinators and community health workers which will use data to target the top 10% of high risk patients for team based intervention and hot spotting. Later in the project period, the Medical Home Learning Labs will be expanded to the other SIU FCM residency sites in Decatur, Quincy, and Springfield as well as more rural West Frankfort affiliated with the Carbondale program. Ultimately, inter-professional learner teams will develop a presentation for local hospitals and community partners showing the improved health outcomes and cost savings using this model to address the social determinants of health. This proposed training model will aim to increase workforce recruitment into primary care and underserved areas by preparing clinicians to practice in and lead highly functional teams. This curriculum will begin by connecting professionals to each other and then connecting the professionals to communities in need. Outcomes of this model will transform health care for the future and will be invaluable to the communities served by SIU training programs and their graduates.