What is SRCH?

In spring 2019, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Public Health Division will provide a funding opportunity for the Sustainable Relationships for Community Health (SRCH) grants, an innovative model to advance health system improvements that support chronic disease prevention and management.

Creating sustainable and effective relationships between community partners improves preventive and chronic care services as well as health outcomes, reduces healthcare costs, and promotes equity.

Who is involved in SRCH?

SRCH brings together teams comprised of the following partners to implement evidence-based interventions and services for sustainable health system change.

- Local Public Health Authorities (LPHAs) or organizations administering ADPEP and TPEP programs
- 2. Oregon Federally Recognized Tribes or Urban Indian Health Programs
- 3. Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs)
- 4. Other key partners involved with health system transformation (Regional Health Equity Coalitions (RHECs), clinics, community-based organizational partners delivering self-management programs)

SRCH participants create sustainable effective relationships between community partners to improve preventive and chronic care services, improve health outcomes, reduce healthcare costs, and promote equity.

The SRCH initiatives focus on strategies specific to the leading causes of death and disability in Oregon:

- Chronic diseases arthritis, asthma, colorectal cancer, diabetes, prediabetes and hypertension
- Associated risk factors tobacco, physical inactivity, poor nutrition, alcohol misuse

Key Contact for SRCH

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Key model elements of SRCH



Innovating complex system change and design thinking



Pioneering multiple systems working and coordinating together



Building sustainable infrastructures



Aligning with Oregon's health system transformation and Coordinated Care Organization incentive measures

An adaptable model

SRCH will award at least three Recipient teams the opportunity to develop and strengthen relationships, co-design strategies to formalize infrastructure and/or arrangements between health system partners and community-based organizational partners (e.g., closed loop referrals, memorandums of understanding), implement quality improvement processes, and collect, analyze and share data in order to reduce some of the leading causes of death and disability in Oregon

The SRCH model includes at least three structured in-person institutes, an assigned liaison /coach, monthly technical assistance calls, and quality improvement tools to support co-design, implementation and evaluation of SRCH initiatives.

Lead Fiscal Agents can be one of the following:

- Local Public Health Authority (LPHA) or organizations administering TPEP and/or ADPEP programs
- Oregon Federally Recognized Tribe
- Urban Indian Health Program that administers an ADPEP or TPEP program
- Coordinated Care Organization (CCO)

Lessons learned from past SRCH initiatives

SRCH advances shared responsibility for health through a facilitated collaboration process.



SRCH provides a good balance between structure and flexibility.



All SRCH teams showed an increase in inter-organizational collaboration. Collaboration increased 95% across all SRCH consortia from baseline to the end of SRCH.

Klamath County SRCH team improved regional collaborations by building relationships between stakeholders in LPHA and primary care clinics, facilitating learning across the clinics in their regions, and leveraging the support of the regional CCO through their primary care specialists. They've worked to effectively communicate to County Commissioners and other local leaders about this work. While some teams tackled the same health initiatives (e.g., tobacco cessation), their approach and target outcomes differed by region. This flexibility and tailoring to meet community needs is a strength of the SRCH model.

Columbia County SRCH team formalized partnership pathways to support closed loop referrals to the Oregon Tobacco Quit Line Program. The team developed a closed loop referral workflow between participating clinics and the Oregon Tobacco Quit Line. The team then tailored the workflows to the staffing of each participating clinic. This resulted in over 90% of patients being screened for tobacco use. SRCH is a systematic process to drive sustainable health system change within a community.



The SRCH grant opportunity supports substantial partnerships, relationship building, and leadership buy-in needed to make progress on team community health improvement initiatives.

The 2015 Clackamas County SRCH team built collaborations between public health, social services, health centers, and their two regional Coordinated Care Organizations (CCO). Through SRCH 2016 they sustained and expanded their partnerships to enable a replicable referral, payment, and reimbursement model for tobacco and selfmanagement support programs. SRCH is an important part of a modern public health organization, building and enhancing workforce capabilities like policy and planning, communication and assessment.



SRCH provides an innovative, adaptable, and structured model that can be adapted to cooperatively and collaboratively address many types of complex health problems.

IHN-CCO team used SRCH to co-design, co-implement and co-evaluate efforts to reduce tobacco use and related chronic diseases, prevent development of secondary conditions, promote healthier lifestyles, and ensure heath equity. Through their SRCH efforts, the IHN-CCO team delivered training to primary care staff on changes made to the referral process, how to work with the Quit Line, and on how to use Motivational Interviewing to support patient engagement.

Timeline for 2019-2020 SRCH RFGP Release

Early May 2019 – SRCH RFGP released Early June 2019 – SRCH Applications due June 2019 – SRCH award recipients notified July 2019 - June 2020– SRCH competitive grant period

SRCH – Supporting Your Efforts

Pilot SRCH for your Modernization and other health system program efforts



Dialogue around a facilitated collaboration model as part of the solution

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Reach out to former SRCH participants to hear more and learn how their approach can help your effort



Explore how the SRCH model could address your broader policy and systems change efforts



Impact