

SDOH Learning Collaborative: Session 7 - Policy and Regulatory Initiatives to Address SDOH

Kelly Cronin

Director, Center for Innovation and Partnership

Deputy Administrator, Administration for Community Living

June 28, 2022

ACL's Primary Roles

- Implement critical disability and aging programs
- Serve as the advisor to the HHS Secretary on disability and aging policy
- Work with other HHS agencies, Departments and the White House on disability and aging policies, including:
 - HHS Office for Civil Rights, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - Departments of Housing and Urban Development, Education, Labor, Justice, Veterans Affairs, and Transportation
- Engage a range of disability and aging stakeholders to inform policy development and implementation

Core Competencies and Services Offered by Aging and Disability Networks

- ACL funds over 20,000 community-based organizations in every state and in communities across the country
- Acute focus on high cost, high need populations
- Robust planning and assessment, expert knowledge/navigation of complex social services system
- Core services include:
 - Assessment for SDOH needs
 - Benefits eligibility and financial resource coordination
 - Care transitions
 - Case management
 - Housing assistance (eviction prevention, supportive services, home mods)
 - Information and referral
 - Nutrition assistance (home-delivered and congregate meals, access to SNAP benefits, food banks, etc.)
 - Social isolation support
 - Transportation assistance

Achieving Health and Social Care Alignment through CBO Networks

- When CBO networks partner with health care providers, the resulting alignment can lead to better outcomes and lower costs ([Brewster et al. Health Affairs](#))
- Networks have the capacity to:
 - Deliver a broad scope of services
 - Expand and evolve populations served
 - Build stronger administrative infrastructures
 - Capitalize on economies of scale
 - Provide expanded geographic coverage
 - Offer “one-stop” contracting for variety of services/payers
 - Expand quality improvement initiatives

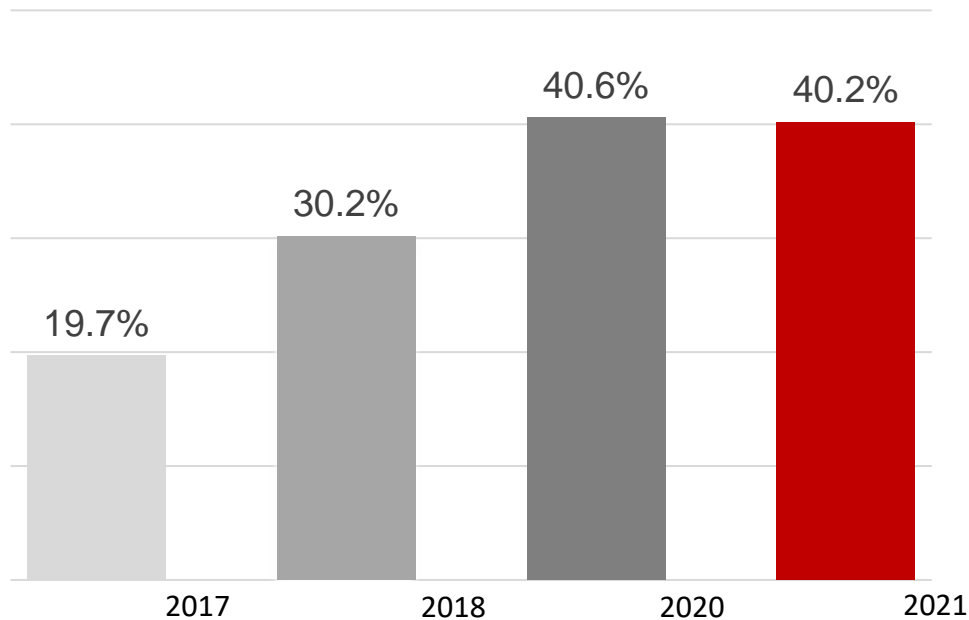
Community Care Hub

- Operational infrastructure for aligning health and social care for populations most at risk for adverse health outcomes
- Enables contractual relationships with health plans/systems
- Coordinates the services of the wider network of social services providers and is responsible for contractual relationships between health care and social services providers
- Takes the lead in governance responsibilities as it pertains to network composition, geographic reach, and performance/quality of contracted services
- Accountable to health care payers, CBO network providers, and individuals served

Essential Hub Functions (Enabled through a Lead Entity)

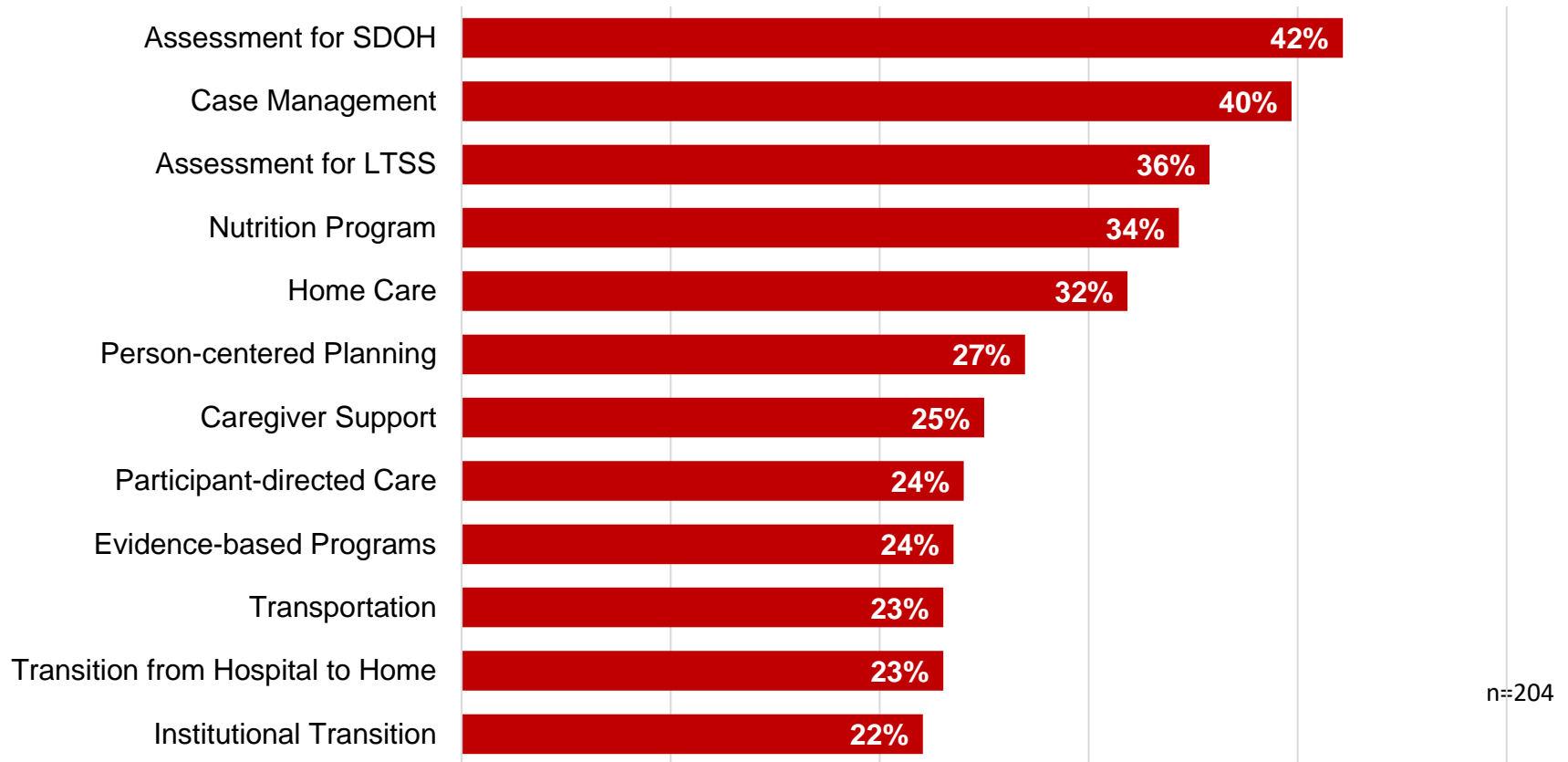
- Leveraging trusted relationships to develop, manage, support, and maintain accountability for a network of community service providers
- Securing and managing health sector contracts
- Managing claims, collections, and payments
- Establishing and maintaining centralized service and data standards, controls, infrastructure
- Implementing and/or overseeing a continuous quality improvement process for the CBO network
- Coordinating workforce development and training in partnership with the CBO network providers

Percentage of Contracting CBOs who Contract as Part of Network

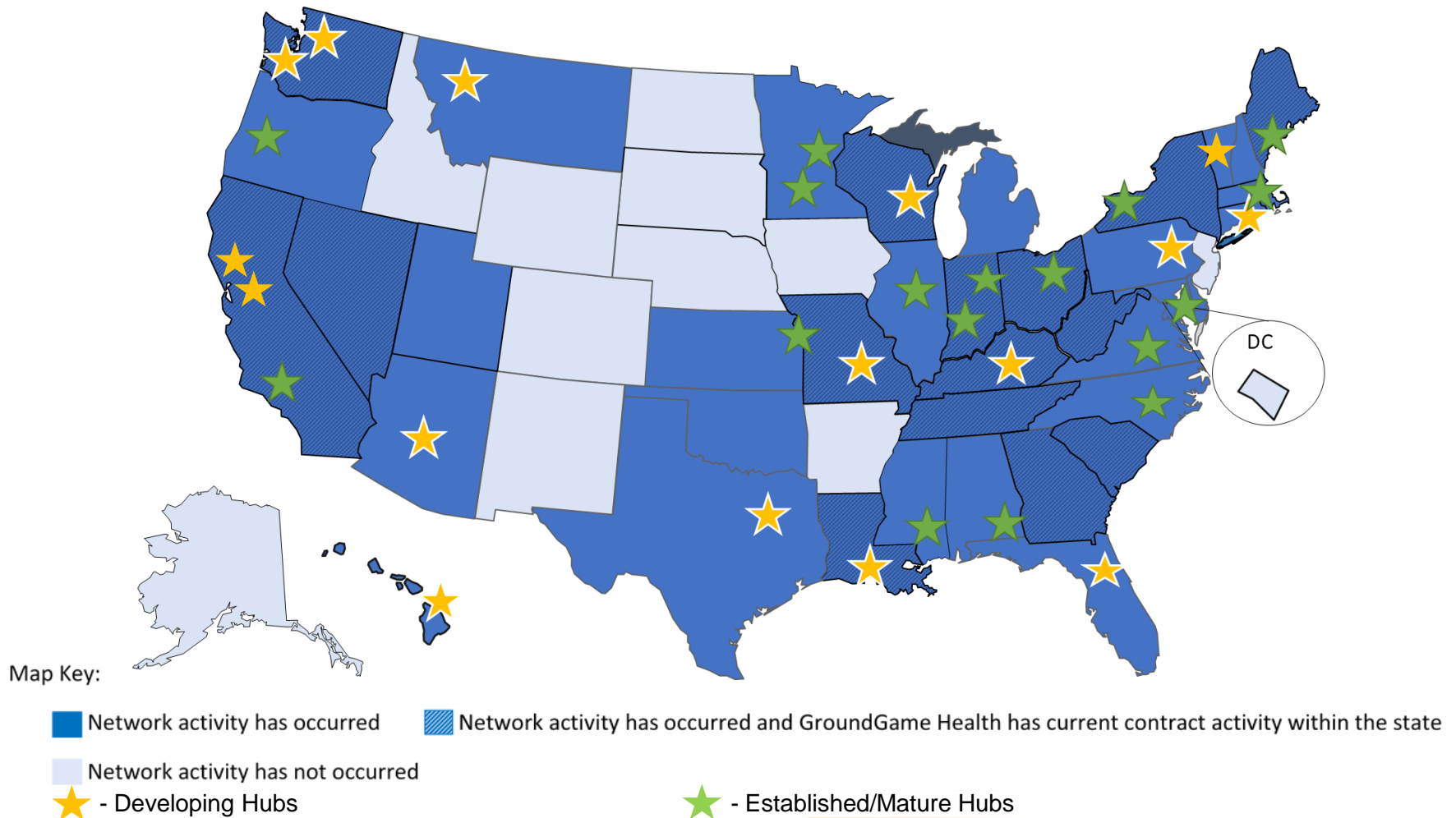


- **Network:** a coordinated group of CBOs that pursues a regional or statewide contract with a health care entity
- The proportion of CBOs that report contracting as part of a network has **doubled** since 2017 (a statistically significant increase)

Most Common Services Provided through Contracts



States with CBO Networks



Represents knowledge from ACL informal communication with state and CBO personnel.
Data last updated: March 2022, updated quarterly
Next Update: July 2022

Real Life Example of SDOH Integration

- Next Gen ACO in North Carolina completed a population health data analysis that revealed increased ED admissions for malnutrition
- ED implemented a food insecurity screen
- Positive screens referred to CBO network covering multiple counties in NC
- Network lead sends the referral to the appropriate CBO partner
- CBO conducts a full SDOH screen
- CBO develops a person-centered plan
- Interventions deployed
- Provided reports to the Next Gen ACO on the impact

NC Example – Patient Experience

- Medicare bene with repeat ED visits for falls and positive malnutrition screen
- Full SDOH assessment by CBO revealed:
 - In-home assessment found no working stove or microwave in the house
 - Significant fall risk throughout the house
 - Patient reports inability to meet insulin copayments for several months
 - Dual Eligible (Medicare + Medicaid)
 - Self-reports of social isolation and loneliness

NC Example – Patient SDOH Interventions Deployed

- SDOH Person-Centered Plan leveraged a braided funding approach to address identified needs:
 - Home-delivered meal voucher
 - Enrollment in SNAP
 - Community Development Block Grant for energy assistance
 - Local church donation of microwave and stove repair
 - Enrollment in Low-Income Subsidy for Medicare Part D to help pay insulin copayments
 - Enrollment in a LTSS Medicaid Waiver
 - Linkage to a local senior center depression intervention

Email: Kelly.Cronin@acl.hhs.gov