

Bringing Health Care to the Patient

Grantmakers in Health, Fall Forum
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Real World Needs





Real World Research



About us

- An independent research institute authorized by Congress in 2010
- Focus of investments
 - Comparative clinical effectiveness research (CER)
 - Dissemination & Implementation
 - Engagement capacity-building
 - Research Infrastructure
 - PCOR Methods



What makes us different

Stakeholder-driven research

- We require engagement of stakeholders throughout the research process. Responsive to the needs and preferences of health care decision-makers

Stakeholder involvement throughout the organization

- Merit/Peer Review
- Governance
- Advisory panels
- Topic generation and refinement



**Real world.
Patient-centered.
Research done differently.**

Community Health Workers

PCORI's Portfolio



CHW research – validating a time-honored role



“...early literature emphasizes the role of the village health workers (VHWs), which was the term most commonly used at the time, as not only (and possibly not even primarily) a health care provider, but also as an advocate for the community and **an agent for social change**, functioning as a community mouthpiece to fight against inequities and advocate community rights and needs to government structures. ”

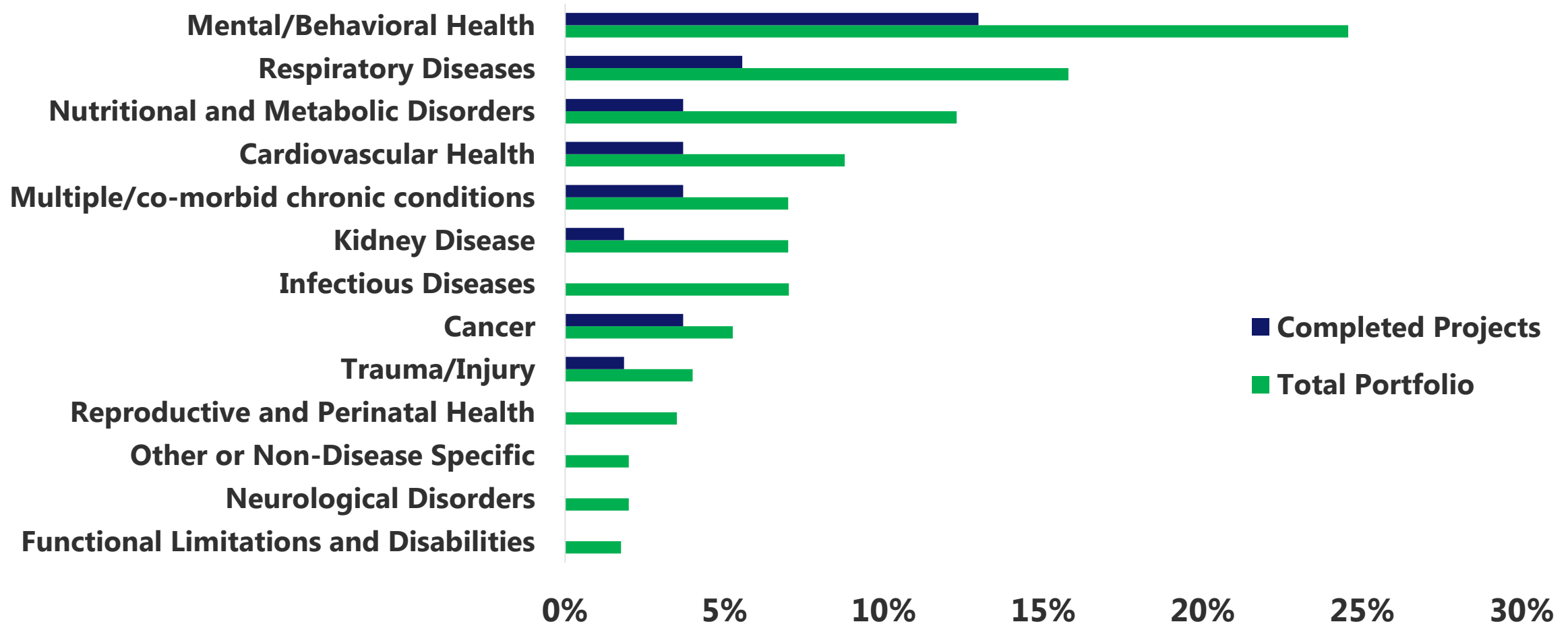
Source: Community Health Workers: What do we know about them, the state of evidence on programs, activities, costs and impact of health outcomes of using community health workers. Presented to the World Health Organization, January 2007

PCORI Community Health Worker (CHW) Portfolio

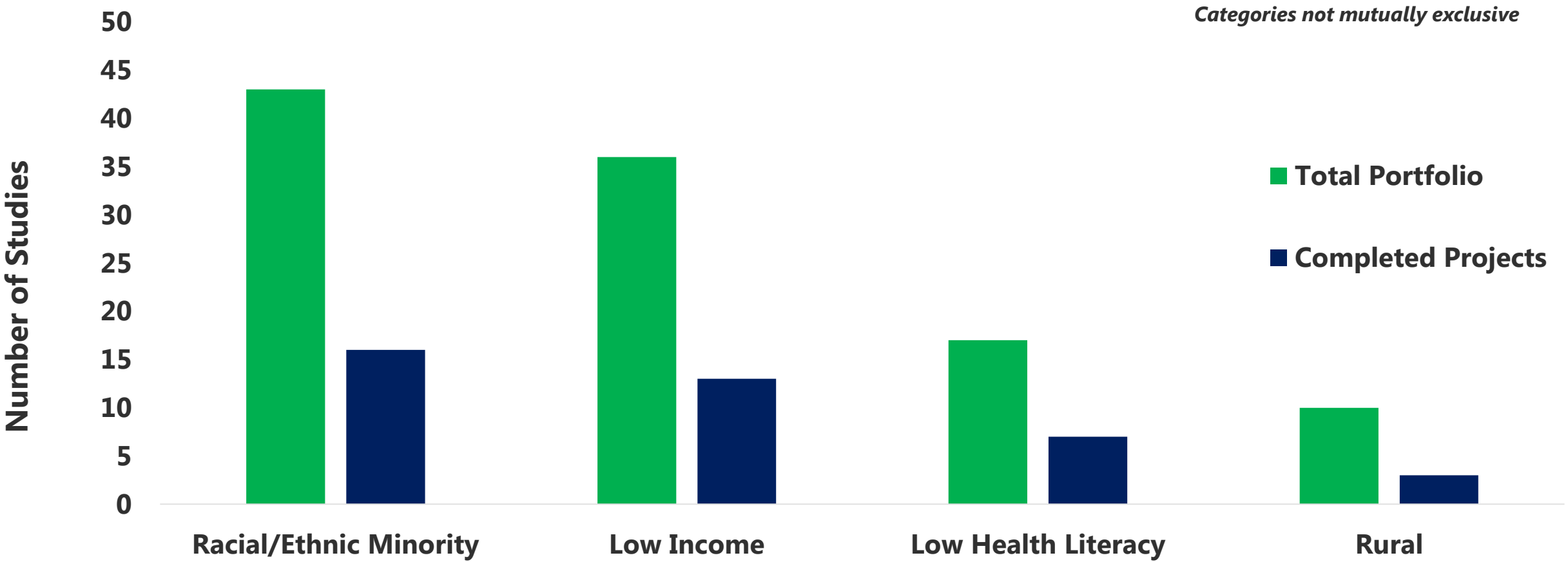


- 74 comparative effectiveness research projects include a CHW/ navigator/peer in the intervention. These projects total more than \$275 million in funding.
 - 33 peer (45%)
 - 29 CHW (39%)
 - 12 patient navigator (16%)
- 29 projects are complete – results posted on [pcori.org](https://www.pcori.org)
 - 12 CHW
 - 13 peer
 - 4 patient navigator

Health Conditions



Populations



Portfolio Spotlights



G2P: CHWs Supporting Patients with Asthma

- 551 patients with uncontrolled asthma
- Ages 5-75
- Randomization: CHW vs. No CHW
- Non-Randomized elements:
- 13 FQHC clinics in 2 systems
 - 4 Enhanced at the start
 - of the trial
- 2 Medicaid health plan



G2P: CHWs Supporting Patients with Asthma



- 3 home visits
- Motivational Interviewing
- Self-management
- Cultural concordance
- Asthma education
 - Medication adherence
 - Trigger reduction
 - Home remediation
 - Care coordination
 - Goal setting

After one year of study intervention with CHWs...

Asthma-related quality of life improved*



More days free of asthma symptoms*

Physical health status improved



*Outcomes also significant in the CHW + enhanced clinic intervention group

Fewer people had poorly controlled asthma*



Fewer asthma-related hospital, ED, urgent care visits*

Nights awoken decreased



Reduced use in rescue medicine

*Outcomes also significant in the CHW + enhanced clinic intervention group

Collaborative Goal Setting with or without Community Health Worker Support for Patients with Multiple Chronic Conditions



What This Study Does

- Evaluates the effectiveness of 6-months of goal-setting with support from a community health worker (CHW) to improve health outcomes for low-income patients with >2 chronic conditions, compared to goal-setting only (control).
- Design: Randomized controlled trial; n=592

Key Findings

- Patients who received the CHW intervention reported higher quality of primary care, and had lower odds of repeat hospitalizations, including 30-day readmissions, compared to the control group. The two groups did not differ in self-reported physical health.

Kangovi et al. Effect of Community Health Worker Support on Clinical Outcomes of Low-Income Patients Across Primary Care Facilities.. JAMA Intern Med. 2018;178(12):1635-1643. doi:10.1001

Why It Matters

“Improving health outcomes in chronically ill, lower resourced populations can be challenging if barriers to accessing and following up on care are not addressed. This intervention links patients with CHWs, who are trusted liaisons to health systems, to help improve care, and reduce avoidable admissions. ”

Judith Long, MD,
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Addressing Disparities

From Research to Practice





Pursuing Sustainability:

- Medicaid MCOs
- Weatherization and Healthy Housing programs
- Integrated health system

Implementation Award: G2P Project (Stout/Kramer)



What is the goal of this project?

- To expand the CHW Asthma Home visit model to four other communities in Washington State. The team is working collaboratively with stakeholders statewide to train/support CHWs and CHW supervisors. Over two years, they aim to reach 1,700 people with Medicaid insurance. The team is revising training materials so they can be used in different communities.

How is the team evaluating this project?

- Programs that are adopting home visits; CHWs trained to make home visits; Trained CHW program managers and supervisors; Home visits from CHWs; Changes in asthma health outcomes

How is the team involving patients and others in making sure the findings reach people who can use them?

- People with asthma, CHWs, CHW managers, Medicaid Managed Care Organizations, and primary care clinicians are part of a community advisory committee that is helping the project team develop the program

Implementation Award: IMPACT CHW Intervention (Long, Kanovi)



What is the goal of this implementation project?

- To implement IMPaCT across three states and to reach approximately 4,625 people. The team is partnering with the Wilmington VAMC, the Pittsburgh VAMC, and BCBSNC's Medicaid program. It has developed an implementation bundle for adapting and implementing IMPaCT in new settings. The team will support partner organizations through hands-on support with hiring, training, and developing site infrastructure.

How is the team involving patients and others in this implementation project?

- In-depth qualitative interviews with patients, caregivers, and clinicians; we will use the data to adapt IMPaCT intervention materials according to local needs and preferences. The study team will engage with stakeholders from the partner organizations (e.g. clinicians, patient representatives, and health system leaders) at all stages of CHW program planning and implementation.

How will this project help ensure future uptake and use of PCORI results?

- Leaders of partner organizations are committed to paying for operational costs of their CHW programs during and beyond the grant period. Our partner organizations are also well positioned to bring PCORI-funded research results into wider use.

Takeaways



Opportunities

- CHWs: Address barriers to adoption
 - Lack of sustainable funding (current funding largely grant-based or for general operating budgets; unpredictable, time-limited)
 - Lack of knowledge of the value of CHWs; unclear professional identity and lack standardized curriculum
 - Wide variety of models

Opportunities

- Broadly
 - Projects focused on increasing awareness and promoting the use of evidence-based models
 - Capacity building of dissemination channels (multi-stakeholder convenings)
 - Pilot implementation projects
 - Fund the “gaps” – e.g., place-based technology and coaching to ensure uptake of telehealth models
 - P2P: Projects that make linkages to researchers

Engage early, and often – building trust takes time



- Involve community members throughout
 - Within your organization's processes
 - As criteria for investment in projects, from planning to implementation and evaluation
- Prepare community members for engagement; prepare staff for engagement
 - Set expectations and goals together around engagement
 - Outline key activities
 - Provide contextual information to help level-set
- Level power imbalances
- Share back the impact of contributions

Listen to communities

“Engage community stakeholders in a bi-directional dialogue to identify systems and policy approaches to address community-defined needs”

Community Health Needs
Assessment, 2019



PCORI:

- [Explore Our Portfolio of Funded Projects](#)
 - Search results, [Community Health Workers](#), [Telemedicine](#)
- Limited Competition PFA: [Implementation](#) of PCORI Funded PCOR Results
- [Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Awards](#)
- [Engagement in Healthcare Research](#)
- [Engagement Resources](#)

Families USA:

- [The Community Health Worker Sustainability Collaborative](#) (Supported by the Kresge Foundation)
- [CHW Resources](#)



**What can
we achieve?**

Contact Information

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