Helping States Support Families Caring for An Aging America: Idaho’s Family Caregiver Navigator Pilot

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Meet Today’s Presenters

Courtney Roman, MA
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Objectives

- Provide an overview of the family caregiving-focused learning collaborative initiative, *Helping States Support Families Caring for an Aging America*
- Describe the key elements that were needed to move learning collaborative states’ work forward
- Highlight the work in Idaho, including an actionable description of strategies used by the Idaho team to partner with Medicaid to better identify family caregivers’ needs and improve supports
- Q&A
Project Overview: Helping States Support Families Caring for an Aging America

- **Goal**: Support participating states (AL, IA, ID, NH, SC, VA) in shaping and/or improving family caregiving polices and programs

- **Funders**: The John A. Hartford Foundation, the Milbank Memorial Fund, the May & Stanley Smith Charitable Trust, and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

- **Timeline**: May 2018-September 2020

- **Main activities**: Multi-state learning collaborative and various forms of CHCS technical assistance

- **Next steps**: Phase II kicked off in October 2020—State selection in early 2021
Key Elements Needed for Foundational Program Changes to Support Family Caregivers

- Prioritize cross-sector engagement
  » Breaks down silos
  » Increases capacity, flexibility, and alignment of existing programs

- Identify leadership champions
  » Clear relationship between leadership support and project momentum
  » Leadership champions often emerge from diverse sources

- Collaborate on shared goals
  » Helps isolate service/resource gaps and avoid duplication
  » Leads to creative and collaborative approaches

- Establish robust data collection and exchange
  » Strengthens understanding of family caregivers and their value
  » Facilitates cross-sector information sharing
Identifying Shared Goals to Guide Family Caregiving Supports

Sarah Toevs, Director, Center for the Study of Aging
Boise State University
Greetings from Idaho

- 13th largest state in land mass, but 34th state in population
- One of the 10 states with a white population of greater than 90%
- Healthy economy and growing population
- Population is aging especially in the rural areas
- Typical western culture of self-reliance, independence, strong communities
- Get er done philosophy, cooperation is expected and rewarded
- Government is viewed as a last resort option
Idaho’s Project Goal

Develop a public/private partnership to enhance caregiver supports, access to information, and services.
Key Elements

Idaho Caregiver Alliance

Relationships

Statewide network of trusted partners
Laser focus on family caregivers across the lifespan

The Pitch

Right people at the table
Facilitated by an outside entity; staff from CHCS
Open exchange of ideas

Action Plan

Regional two year pilot
Capitalize on existing evidenced-based tools: TCARE caregiver assessment
Introducing the Idaho Caregiver Navigator Pilot Project
Action Taken

- Outreach, outreach, outreach
  - Multi-sector Advisory Committee
  - Presentations
    - 25 to community groups
    - 30 to professionals
  - CaregiverNavigator.org
  - Print materials
- Navigator onboarding
- Project launch September 1, 2020
  - 83+ assessments conducted
Next Steps

- Process Evaluation: Rapid PDSA
- Outcome Evaluation
  - Multiple stakeholders
    - Caregivers
    - Healthcare systems and providers
    - Public agencies
    - Community-based organizations
- Outreach, Outreach, Outreach
- Evidenced-based recommendations to guide expansion
Lessons Learned

- Build on trusted relationships
- Gap analysis
- Adequately fund outreach and marketing
- Clear, well articulated vision
- Assess opportunity costs
  - Does it align with core mission?
  - Does it advance a strategic initiative?
  - Will it advance partnerships with key stakeholders?
- Dare to dream
Question & Answer