



Greater Waterbury
**HEALTH
PARTNERSHIP**
Creating Healthy Communities Together

Greater Waterbury
Health Partnership

Annual Report

FISCAL YEAR 2021



Dear Friends and Partners,

Who would have imagined that in just 3 short years, GWHP would grow from a small collaboration to a sponsored organization with over 10 staff? Although the last year was fraught with challenges, GWHP continued to grow and work on strategies aligned with our mission, which is centered on health equity, health access and reliable health data. From organizing Covid testing sites with partners in hard-to-reach communities to holding Community Care Team meetings virtually; GWHP flexed with the community's needs and continued to serve.

The completion of a staff program merger with Waterbury Health Access provided momentum to GWHP to leverage additional funding to sustain and expand the program. Through a contract with Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Waterbury Health Access now has the additional supports it needs to continue serving a very vulnerable patient population. Additionally, GWHP was awarded a Vaccine Equity Partnership contract with the City of Waterbury and worked with community partners. We performed health education and outreach to patients of the Malta House of Care, including vaccine clinics and transportation to vaccine locations.

We continue to analyze health data and formulate strategies based upon needs. Through that process, an important Maternal Health initiative is also being led by GWHP and partners to improve maternal health outcomes in Black women. Funded by the Connecticut Community Foundation, the project brings together StayWell Health Center, Waterbury Bridge to Success, Womans' Choice Perinatal Services, Earth's Natural Touch and the Waterbury Home Visitor's Network. Our flagship program, Waterbury Community Care Team (CCT), continues to be successful and grow, with over 40 collaborating team members and 28 patients.

The Waterbury Community Care Team has reduced ER utilization by 45% in the patients it serves; CCT patients are healthier, housed & accessing Primary Care

CCT patients are healthier, housed and accessing primary care instead of emergency rooms. As we end the year, we are hopeful for more health system innovation with our clinical partners through expanded partnership and funding models. As we look back, we are grateful for our Partner and Funder support, and for the hardworking staff of GWHP that keeps our mission central in our work.



In good health,

Angie Matthis

Executive Director

Our Mission

The Greater Waterbury Health Partnership aims to provide access to culturally sensitive, evidence-based health information for the Greater Waterbury region, and to coordinate local healthcare services to improve overall community health. Supported by data, our mission is rooted in community collaboration as a critical element to meet the needs of our diverse communities.

2019-2023 Health Priorities:

Access to Care:

- Preventative/Primary/Prenatal Care
- Language
- Transportation
- Readmissions
- Substance Abuse/Mental Health

Health Influencers:

- Access to food
- Housing
- Health Education/ Outreach

Health Risk Factors:

- Obesity/Diabetes
- Hypertension/Heart Disease
- Asthma
- Infant Mortality



COVID-19 Report

Coordination of Covid testing sites, vaccine clinics and outreach events

Through funding provided by Thomaston Savings Bank, GWHP worked in collaboration with StayWell Health Care, Inc., to conduct pop up COVID-19 testing locations in areas that would increase access for residents. Several testing events were held at churches, senior/assisted living facilities and StayWell's satellite offices. Pop-up testing was provided at a total of 18 sites with over 1,400 people tested.

Site	# Served	Date
George B Lewis Housing	31	7/8/2020
Grace Baptist Church	96	10/21/2020
Grace Meadows	61	9/23/2020
Greater Waterbury YMCA	86	9/30/2020
Marriot Hotel	36	5/27/2020
Mount Olive/Mount Zion AME	97	6/11/2020, 9/16/2020
Prospect Towers	107	8/26/2020
Robert Hutt Housing	42	6/24/2020
StayWell Locations	830+	4/23/2020-10/30/2020
Wellmore	64	6/24/2020

GWHP strategically organized locations that were ideal for residents to walk or drive to. Testing sites also included navigation services for other social needs.



Vaccine Equity Project

Over the Summer, GWHP partnered with the Waterbury Department of Public Health for their State funded Vaccine Equity grant. This work was focused around increasing access to vaccines. GWHP engaged it's partner in health access, Malta House of Care at Saint Francis Xavier Church to reach a population of uninsured residents who have lacked medical care throughout the Pandemic.

For the duration of the 4 month project, GWHP held:

- 3 Vaccine clinics
- 2 Outreach & education events

For a total of:

- 1,000 uninsured patients engaged



A colorful illustration of diverse people of various ethnicities and ages, some wearing face masks, set against a white background with a light blue and orange border.

Collaborative approaches to relevant pandemic data

GWHP sponsored and participated in a special COVID-19 survey through DataHaven that asked residents questions around their experience with COVID-19 and how the pandemic has impacted their lives. DataHaven fielded a special "COVID-19 rapid response" wave of the statewide DataHaven Community Wellbeing Survey (DCWS) by partnering with Siena College Research Institute to complete live, in-depth interviews of 1,108 randomly-selected Connecticut residents from late July to mid-August 2020.

The data from this survey will inform our next Community Health Needs Assessment with community voices and lived experience of local residents. Additionally, GWHP was a reviewer for DataHaven's COVID-19 Report, **Towards Health Equity in Connecticut: The Role of Social Inequality and the Impact of COVID-19**. This report details the correlation between social determinants of health, health equity and COVID-19.

Selected Survey Findings

Source: DataHaven 2020

DataHaven
The Twenty Fifth Year

Since February, 33% of Connecticut adults say that they had close friends or family who tested positive for COVID-19.

- 18% say they had close friends or family who were hospitalized for COVID-19
- 13% say they had close friends or family who died from COVID-19.

The survey found that these rates were higher among Black and Latino communities in Connecticut.

The survey also found that skipping or postponing medical or dental care affects all income levels. **Nearly half of Connecticut adults surveyed have skipped or delayed care due to the pandemic.**

- 39% of lower-income adults said their condition got worse as a result.
- 15% of higher-income adults said that their condition got worse as a result.



Intense Interventions that save lives.

Patient Case Study

Community Care Team

The Waterbury Community Care Team enrolled a 48-year-old woman after numerous non-emergency visits to the ER and a lack of primary and specialty care follow-up compliance.

In addition to requiring healthcare navigation services for identified medical, behavioral health and substance abuse disorders, this patient was also screened for the social determinants of health (SDOH) via UniteUs which revealed positive screening needs such as food , income, housing and transportation. These needs all indicated how the support of a multi-disciplined community care team (CCT) would benefit this patient. Quickly, CCT partners mobilized to coordinate interventions for the patient.

Since CCT involvement, there has been a huge reduction in ED utilization and the patient expresses gratitude for...

“**Compassionate community care.**”

The patient went from having 12 hospital visits in a 12-month period to having zero visits post-CCT intervention. Her total hospital costs of \$214,458 were reduced 100% after CCT enrollment.

Partners that were engaged



NEW OPPORTUNITIES
Building Relationships to End Poverty™



Stay Well
Health Center

CHD

Waterbury Hospital
WaterburyHEALTH



SAFE HAVEN
OF GREATER WATERBURY, INC



Trinity Health | Saint Mary's
Of New England Hospital

Wellmore
Behavioral Health
Wellness for a lifetime™

Restart



Program *Spotlight* Community Care Team

Funded by the **Connecticut Health Foundation**, the Community Care Team (CCT) is an innovative clinical and community-based organization integration project that began in 2020. The Community Care Team is made up of over 40 social service and health care providers in the Greater Waterbury community that come together bi-weekly to provide intensive case management for super utilizers of our hospital Emergency Departments.

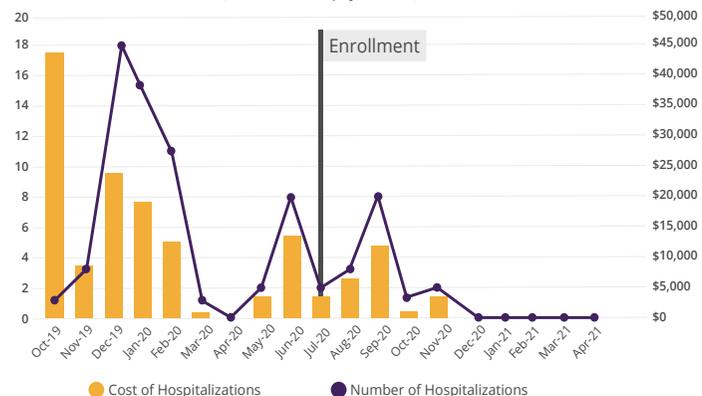
The CCT uses the data platform, Unite Us to efficiently and securely track and send referrals to Partners that are enrolled in the system. Unite Us has the unique ability to connect both community and clinical referrals. The CCT works to link patients

with care and coordinate services for any social determinants of health or barriers they may be facing. In its pilot phase until 2024, CCT interventions are intended to be long-term with the goal of helping communities of color that are housing challenged achieve stability and independence. To date, GWHP has over 28 CCT patients receiving intervention from the multi-disciplinary team and has reduced hospital utilization by over 45%.

The CCT approach has demonstrated a reduction in total hospital costs of 1.3M for the patients served in the first 12 months of the program.

The CCT project receives additional support from GWHP clinical Partners, Saint Mary's Hospital and Waterbury Hospital. You can see our impact in the individual patient trend chart shown below:

Patient Trend (FR): Hospitalization Count and Cost by Month
(CCT Enrollment: July 13, 2020)



System Change

System Change: Improving Maternal Health Care for Women of Color through Coordination & Advocacy

Through a Health & Environmental Justice grant provided by the **Connecticut Community Foundation**, GWHP is partnering to eliminate Maternal Health disparities in Black mothers.

Greater Waterbury Health Partnership, StayWell Health Center Home Visiting and Waterbury Bridge to Success work collaboratively with Womans' Choice Perinatal Services and other partners. The goal of this partnership is to provide outreach and education to Black women that may benefit from Doula or Childbirth Education as well as wrap-around services.

Black mothers have the highest rates of maternal death and the lowest rates of breastfeeding across the State of CT. Black mothers have little to no access to culturally competent childbirth support services, particularly if they are low-income. This collaborative partnership will enrich the motherhood experience for Black women through the provision of free doula services, trauma informed training for caregivers and enhanced and expanded doula training for home visiting staff. ***This program is the springboard for a larger "Baby Bundle" initiative in Waterbury in cooperation with Bridgeport Baby Bundle and Bridgeport Prospers.***

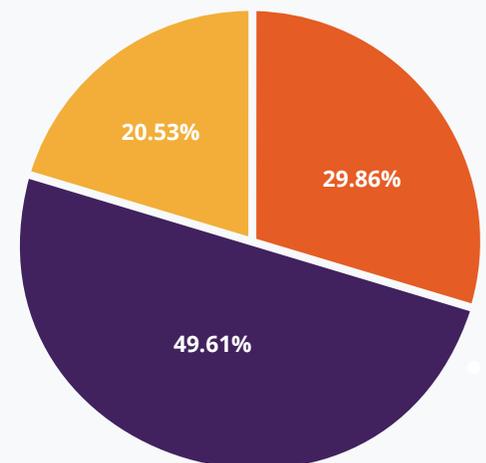


Year End Summary

Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021

Awarded Budget \$635,400	FY 20-21 BUDGET	TOTAL EXP FY 7/20 - 6/21	EXPENSES VARIANCE
GWHP Salaries & Wages	\$ 166,978	\$ 139,460	\$ 27,518
Fringe Benefits	\$ 32,242	\$ 14,277	\$ 17,965
Contracted / Project Partners Services & Stipends	\$ 382,590	\$ 381,256	\$ 1,334
IT/Software Purchases	\$ 4,919	\$ 2,046	\$ 2,873
Rental Fees/Meeting Expenses			
Staff Training	\$ 1,000	\$ 155	\$ 845
Meeting Expenses	\$ 1,300		\$ 1,300
Minor Equipment (computer & Software)	\$ 9,958	\$ 4,794	\$ 5,164
Printing and Marketing		\$ 490	(\$ 490)
Supplies	\$ 7,000	\$ 6,331	\$ 669
Programs Expenses & Activities	\$ 1,321	\$ 6,175	(\$ 4,853)
Travel - Mileage	\$ 1,094		\$ 1,094
Administrative OH (Audit,Acctg/ HR/ IT....)	\$ 26,998	\$ 7,144	\$ 19,854
TOTALS	\$ 635,400	\$ 562,127	\$ 73,273 **

FUNDING SOURCE	AMOUNT
● Private	\$ 189,781
● State / Municipal	\$ 315,345
● Clinical	\$ 130,523



** Totals represent
6/30/2021 - Fiscal Year End
Grants Have Different End
Dates & Cross FY



Stay tuned for exciting new developments and partnerships in 2022!

State of CT Office of Health Strategy: *Health Equity Project*

City of Waterbury: *Advancing Health Literacy Project*

Putting on Airs: *Asthma Advocacy*

Thank you to our Community, Clinical and State funders for continuing to support our shared goals and our mission.

Greater Waterbury Health Partnership

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 healthywaterbury.org



Our Partners & Funders

