

Value Connection

Arkansas Health Network's Newsletter

Winter 2021



Warmest Season's Greetings from Arkansas Health Network!

Happy Holiday Seasons, Merry Christmas and a Wonderful New Year to you and your loved ones from Arkansas Health Network (AHN)! This has been an especially exciting and successful year, as we have celebrated several achievements including:

- 2019 & 2020 Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP), being recognized as a best practice in CommonSpirit Health enterprise for its repeated successes
- 2020 MSSP-ACO saved CMS \$14 million and achieved an overall quality score of 98.18%
- 2020 Highest quality score (81%) among all CINs within CommonSpirit Health for our CHI St. Vincent 2020 employee health plan population
- Recognized by Becker's Hospital Review with two featured articles on shared savings and our "Pathways to Success" plan
- Strengthened presence in Northwest Arkansas with NextHealth joining in partnership with AHN and ACCN
- Continued growth of our provider network including the addition of Unity Health (300+ providers)
- Welcomed a new CMO, Dr. Lubna Maruf and Market Vice President of Employer Business Development, Chris O'Dwyer

Daniel Felton, MD, Board Chair, Arkansas Health Network

Bob Sarkar, FACHE, President & CEO, Arkansas Health Network

What's in this Issue?

- ♦ **Board Chairman/CEO Message.....p.1**
- ♦ **Farewell to Rachel Longfellowp.1**
- ♦ **Becker's Hospital Reviewp.2**
- ♦ **Annual Wellness Visits.....p.2**
- ♦ **Welcome Chris O'Dwyer.....p.3**
- ♦ **Unity Healthp.3**
- ♦ **AHN Privacy Standards p.3**
- ♦ **MSSP Enhanced Track & Distributionp.4**
- ♦ **New Network Additionsp.4**

Farewell to Rachel Longfellow

It is with deep gratitude and thanks that we share that Rachel Longfellow is leaving AHN in the middle of January. Rachel has been a part of the development of AHN since 2013. As part of her Administrative Fellowship with CHI St. Vincent, she played an integral role in building AHN's data infrastructure and standing up its Medicare Shared Savings Program. She became a full-time leader of AHN in 2016. During her tenure, she played a key role in restructuring and developing a methodical administrative approach to AHN's year over year application and regular reporting processes. Through her leadership, Rachel established herself as the "go-to" person for data analytics for the entire network with both internal and external stakeholder requests and ad hoc reporting. In another area of leadership, she was a champion legal and compliance liaison for AHN with CommonSpirit Health. As of the last reporting period, Rachel ensured 100% conflict of interest requirements were met for AHN governance committees and Board members.



Rachel was key in negotiating and transitioning to a new Population Health Management Platform, not only for AHN but also for the entire Southeast Division including Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio and Georgia. Rachel's passion for wellness led her efforts in developing corporate wellness for AHN and taking wellness to new heights for CHI St. Vincent, one of the key DTE clients of AHN. During her years with AHN, Rachel worked closely with the National Payor Analytics Team P2 Tools, created and managed the dynamic AHN provider roster and managed all aspects of marketing and communication for AHN. She has contributed significantly to the development and implementation of AHN's strategic plan and service delivery. We appreciate that Rachel has built a solid bench and a strong operations legacy. This foundation has prepared AHN for the next level in operations growth. A heartfelt thank you to Rachel for her service and dedication to Arkansas Health Network!

For questions or comments, please contact Bob Sarkar (BSarkar@stvincenthealth.com)



AHN Featured in “Becker’s Hospital Review” Follow up Story

BECKER’S

HOSPITAL REVIEW

In February 2021, AHN was recognized for its success in achieving growth, innovation and repeated success as a clinically integrated network by an industry-leading healthcare journal, “Becker’s Hospital Review”. AHN’s President & CEO, Bob Sarkar was also invited join the Becker’s Healthcare Podcast.

In November 2021, AHN was again recognized in a follow up article showcasing its success in saving CMS millions of dollars over the past 7 years through its Medicare Shared Savings ACO and now choosing to take on more risk with the opportunity to earn even greater rewards.

Bob Sarkar, CEO, attributes AHN’s success to its high quality provider network, its strong multidisciplinary care clinical team, and its data-driven capabilities. During 2020, AHN used COVID-19 as an opportunity to shift its focus to annual wellness visits. Through targeted outreach, AHN was able to engage patients during the pandemic to achieve both high quality scores and reduce costs in 2020.

Beginning January 2021, AHN is taking on the challenge of higher risk - 75% up from 60%. As part of AHN’s plan, they are collaborating with EngageMED, a physician practice management services company, to create a patient referral and coordination center. They are also partnering with employers to create clinics to treat minor day-to-day employee issues and developing a home visit initiative for elderly and chronic care patients. AHN is significantly expanding their partnership with area employers to help control their total healthcare cost, while improving quality of care and patient experience.

The complete article can be found here:

<https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/hospital-management-administration/more-risk-more-reward-arkansas-health-network-s-plan-to-thrive-in-medicare-s-pathways-to-success-program.html>

For questions or comments, please contact Bob Sarkar (BSarkar@stvincenthealth.com)

Annual Wellness Visits Reminder



The Annual Wellness Visit (AWV) is a great tool for Primary Care Providers participating in the Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) and their patients insured through Medicare. During these challenging times of COVID-19, AHN continues its efforts to ensure patients remain engaged with their providers by getting their AWV. With an AWV, patients benefit from a comprehensive assessment and proactive preventive care. Benefits to the providers include better care for their patients, the opportunity to improve quality scores, appropriate risk scoring by comprehensive coding of patients’ diagnoses and patient attribution. In short, AWV is a win-win proposition for both patients and their providers.

AWV is a fully covered Medicare Part B benefit, meaning there are no out of pocket expenses for patients once every 12 months. There are two possible CPT codes (G0438 or G0439) which providers could apply for the AWV encounter, depending on whether they have completed another AWV in prior years.

G0438 Personalized prevention plan of service, initial visit

G0439 Personalized prevention plan of service, subsequent visit

For questions or comments, please contact Dr. Lubna Maruf (Lubna.Maruf@commonspirit.org) or Camille Wilson (CRWilson@stvincenthealth.com)

AHN Leadership Team Welcomes Chris O'Dwyer

Chris O'Dwyer has joined AHN as the Market Vice President of Employer Business Development. This is a key role which is intended to supercharge our Ministry's Direct-to-Employer (DTE) Services' growth, while we strategically expand our provider network's presence here in Arkansas.



Chris' direct responsibilities will include all aspects of employer business development (DTE), while he oversees provider network growth and management. AHN's Network Development Specialists (employer and/or provider-facing) and other roles will be reporting directly to Chris. He will be working in close collaboration with AHN, Arkansas Children's Care Network, Next Health CIN and other partners' clinical, medical and operations leaders and teams (internal and external) to help accomplish our strategic goals in employer business partnership and provider network.

Chris has 29 years of combined experience in the full range of health insurance product sales, client management and team leadership right here in Central Arkansas. Most recently he was the Director of Sales for QualChoice/Centene. In his close to three decades of tenure in the industry, Chris has been the New Business Manager for Cigna, Senior Regional Sales Director for CoreSource Inc. /Trustmark (a well-known TPA in the industry), Employee Benefits Advisor and Director of Marketing for Hagan Newkirk and Hatcher Agency (Benefit Planning and Brokerage firms). Chris received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Hendrix College and holds an active Arkansas Insurance Producer License.

A native of Central Arkansas, Chris and his wife Lenisa are blessed with six children, ages ranging from 12 to 21 (including two sets of twins). In his leisure time, he loves to travel, spend time with his family and play golf.

For questions or comments, please contact Bob Sarkar (BBSarkar@stvincenthealth.com)

Unity Health joins AHN Provider Network

AHN continues to grow its provider network across the state with the recent addition of Unity Health in Searcy. This group of over 350 providers brings with it White County Medical Center and will expand services to Jacksonville through the purchase of an existing hospital facility. They provide a strong base of behavioral health services for primary care providers with 30+ psychiatrists, psychiatric nurse practitioners, therapists and residents. AHN welcomes this newest large group of providers to our network.

AHN Privacy Standards Update

Effective November 8, 2021, the AHN Board of Managers has reviewed and approved an updated set of twenty-five Privacy Standards consistent with peer CINs across CommonSpirit Health.

The topics of these policies include, but are not limited to, uses and disclosures of Protected Health Information, Notice of Privacy, Confidential Communication and Privacy Compliance. Copies of these policies will be made available to AHN participating providers via a private webpage and through the secure AHN Mobile Connect APP.

For questions or comments, please contact Rachel Longfellow (RDLongfellow@stvincenthealth.com)

MSSP Enhanced Track & Distribution Update

MSSP Enhanced Track: In our last newsletter, we shared that AHN planned to complete the full application process to transition in 2022 to a new evolution of the Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) called Pathways to Success. In November, that application process was completed and in December, AHN was notified of our acceptance by CMS into that program. Under this most advanced track, AHN's potential for both downside risk and upside shared savings will increase from 60% to 75%. Based on its repeated track record of success, AHN's leadership and board members are highly optimistic for AHN to remain a top performer in this program.

MSSP 2020 Distributions: Although 2020 was a difficult year for healthcare, particularly with navigating COVID-19, AHN received a total of \$8.4M from CMS for its Medicare Shared Savings ACO performance and achieved a quality score of 98.1%. AHN leadership and the Board of Managers are actively working on a formula for distributions of a portion of the performance incentives to eligible network providers. Distributions will be shared in early 2022. Congratulations to our participating providers on our shared success!

For questions or comments, please contact Rachel Longfellow (RDLongfellow@stvincenthealth.com)

New Network Participant Additions

Arkansas Health Network welcomes the following practices to its roster of participants. All new participants are reviewed and approved by the AHN Board of Managers.

◇ Unity Health—*White County Medical Center, Searcy, 501-268-6121*
For locations see website: www.unity-health.org

<i>Family Medicine</i>	<i>General Surgery</i>	<i>Infectious Disease</i>	<i>Psychiatry</i>
<i>Internal Medicine</i>	<i>Emergency Medicine</i>	<i>Oncology</i>	<i>Pathology</i>
<i>Radiation Oncology</i>	<i>Obstetrics/Gynecology</i>	<i>Neurosurgery</i>	<i>Cardiology</i>
<i>Radiology</i>	<i>Otolaryngology</i>	<i>Pediatrics</i>	<i>Interventional Cardiology</i>
<i>Hospice and Palliative Care</i>	<i>Podiatry</i>	<i>Urology</i>	<i>Anesthesiology</i>
<i>Allergy/Immunology</i>	<i>Acute Care</i>	<i>Audiology</i>	<i>Nephrology</i>
<i>Sleep Medicine</i>	<i>Physical Therapy</i>	<i>Rheumatology</i>	<i>Social Work</i>
<i>Neurology</i>	<i>Occupational Therapy</i>	<i>Pulmonary/Critical Care</i>	<i>Counseling</i>
<i>Orthopedic Surgery</i>	<i>Speech Language Therapy</i>	<i>Dentistry</i>	<i>Rehabilitation</i>

- ◇ Central Arkansas Family Clinic
Family Medicine, Cabot, 501-422-6374
- ◇ Connelley Family Medical
Family Medicine, Monticello, 870-460-9001

- ◇ Faulkenberry Chiropractic Inc.
Chiropractic, Little Rock, 501-225-1371
- ◇ Joseph M. LaCava, DPM, PA
Podiatry, Hot Springs, 501-321-4844

For questions, please contact: Tiffani Butler (TButler@stvincenthealth.com) or Hayden Finley (HLFinley@stvincenthealth.com)

The Value Connection Newsletter is designed and written by Rachel Longfellow, Market Director of Operations, Arkansas Health Network. Please email her (RDLongfellow@stvincenthealth.com) with feedback, future story ideas, or requests to be added to the distribution list. For more information, please also visit AHN's website— www.arkansashealthnetwork.com or call 501-552-3547.