THRESHOLDS

HOME | HEALTH | HOPE

Using Data to Improve Care Quality and Health Outcomes: Population Health begins at Home!

The July 2014 journal of Health Affairs suggests six ways in which "big" data can be used to improve health outcomes, ranging from the identification of high-cost patients to tailor interventions to meet their needs to using predictive algorithms to foresee potential readmissions to intervene earlier. More recently, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration released a user-friendly 10 step guide to managing population health.

Read more about integrated care data at CHCF

Read more about integrated care data at SAMHSA

Thresholds Evaluation Department is using "not-so-big" data from multiple sources to improve the health of Thresholds' members. Drawing from both Thresholds Electronic Health Record and Medicaid claims data, Thresholds evaluation and quality departments are supporting Thresholds teams by:

1. Identifying members who may need more support in filling prescriptions.
2. Identifying members who are high users of the emergency room and working with the team to identify potential causes
3. Understanding why results differ by program or team
4. Identifying patterns of service use to foresee readmissions
5. Identifying gaps in continuum of care for high level systems care coordination

Importantly, the evaluation team knows data are merely a point of departure for supporting staff conversations with members about how they can work together. Thresholds is uniquely situated to improve the population health of persons with serious mental illness living in Chicago and its suburbs by improving outcomes for the members we serve and by increasing access to services for members we do not.