

IS OUR COMMUNITY ON THE RIGHT PATH?

Planning & Preparing for the Affordable Care Act

The Affordable Care Act presents an historic opportunity to meet the health care needs of communities across the state. This opportunity won't be fully realized unless local health care leaders come together to innovate and work collaboratively on implementation. We believe there are three critical questions for communities to ask as we prepare for the implementation of health reform. Working through these questions will get your community on the right path.

www.ccmu.org/RightPath

1. What is the current and future state of health insurance coverage in our community?

- How many residents are currently uninsured or underinsured?
- How many are eligible for public health insurance but not enrolled (EBNE)?
- How many will be newly-eligible for insurance coverage, and for what type?
- How many will remain uninsured?

COVERAGE

2. What is the capacity of our health care system and do residents have adequate access to services?

- How many residents have a usual source of care?
- How long is the wait to become a new patient with local providers?
- Do local clinics and practices have plans to expand capacity or modify service delivery to accept more patients?
- Based on projections of newly insured patients, how many new providers will our community need?
- Are residents able to access specialty care in our region?
- What is the current state of your health care safety net?

ACCESS

3. As a community, what can we do to ensure residents can get the care they need when they need it?

- How can we work together to maximize enrollment in new coverage opportunities?
- Where do we have opportunities to improve and innovate around health care access?
- What are we currently doing that works and should be strengthened?
- What plans do we need to make to provide health care services to those who will remain uninsured?

ACTION

Collective action and a sense of urgency are key to successful health reform. Act now and work through these questions with health care leaders in your community.

