



BRIDGING THE GAP CONFERENCE

DAY 2

MAY 7, 2025

GRAND BALLROOM
PLENARY



8:30AM-9:45AM

Welcome & Session

Welcome- WyCOA

Moving at Speed of Trust: Building Partnerships for Optimizing Whole Person Health- Joy Doll

Successful cross-sector partnerships are built on trust, shared goals, and a commitment to advancing whole-person health. This session will explore strategies for fostering meaningful collaborations across healthcare, public health, and community-based organizations to address social drivers of health (SDOH). Attendees will gain insights into leveraging data, aligning incentives, and strengthening relationships to drive sustainable impact and whole person care in Wyoming.

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9:45 AM-11:00 AM

Breakout Session

The Role of Community Care Hubs Addressing Social Drivers of Health: Opportunities for Wyoming- Tracy Carver

Community Care Hubs are a growing model for improving coordination of services to address the social drivers of health in communities across the country. CCHs serve as trusted local backbone entities that are neutrally governed, flexible, and equipped to coordinate cross-sector partnerships between health care, housing, food access and other critical social service providers. States and communities nationwide are developing and adapting a variety of community care hub models to meet their unique needs.

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HALL A



9:45 AM-11:00 AM

Breakout Session

Trauma Informed Care in Action: Breaking the Cycle with WBI - Lance Richards and Mitch Schoenwolf

Wyoming Behavioral Institute began an internal initiative in 2024 to create a trauma-specific environment of care, where people want to work and people experiencing mental health crises want to pursue recovery. All staff, including administrators and physicians, were trained to understand trauma-specific care. New employees are taught to use trauma-informed methods before interacting with other staff and patients. Benchmarks that indicate care is trauma specific include lower employee turnover rates, higher patient satisfaction scores and zero utilization of hands-on intervention. WBI's nursing team is so impressed by the ways trauma-informed care has changed the way patients and staff interact that they are taking their learning experience into the community. Nursing Supervisor Mitch Schoenwolf and Staff Development Facilitator Lance Richardson are helping patients, staff and now the community understand that people learn to use maladaptive behaviors like threats of violence, acts of violence, verbal aggression and self-harming as the means to getting their needs met — and specifically, comfort. Trauma-informed responses to behaviors can create a shift in the dynamic between adults and youth and reduce or eliminate power struggles. When the power struggle ends, the healing begins. Join us to learn more about trauma informed care, in action

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9:45 AM-11:00 AM

Breakout Session

My Health is My Home- Kelly Wessels

This session explores strategies related to collaboration on housing & health outcomes among the unsheltered, unstably housed.

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11:00 AM-11:15 AM

Vendor Break

Please take a moment to visit with our vendors.



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11:15 AM- 12:30 PM

Breakout Session

From Informed to Empowered: Leveraging Research Partnerships to Strengthen Community-Based Health Initiatives- Tai Baker and Gail Wilson

Discover how a partnership between the Equality State Research Network (ESRN) and the Wyoming Health Council (WHC) led to transformative changes in program development, strategic planning, and service delivery. This session will explore how WHC, which oversees Title X-funded family planning services in Wyoming, moved from learning about community-based research to embedding it in their funding strategies and decision-making processes.

Attendees will gain a replicable framework for building effective research collaborations, assess organizational research readiness, and explore ways to apply evidence-based practices to improve community impact. Learn how WHC enhanced services for diverse populations, including those with disabilities, and how your organization can do the same—turning research into action for long-term success

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11:15 AM- 12:30 PM

Breakout Session

Suicide Prevention for Parents & Caregivers: Addressing a Social Issue with Proactive and Reactive Approaches- Dr. Kent Corso

Suicide prevention begins with open, age-appropriate conversations. This presentation equips parents, caregivers, and community members with proactive strategies to normalize discussions about suicide prevention, similar to how we teach children about stranger danger or fire safety. Additionally, it provides practical guidance on how to respond when a child expresses suicidal thoughts. Suicide is a social issue shaped by factors like connectedness, access to healthcare, community support, financial stability, and other social determinants of health. By fostering a safe and supportive environment, adults can help children build resilience, recognize warning signs, respond in helpful ways, and seek help when needed, ultimately contributing to a more informed and compassionate community response.

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11:15 AM- 12:30 PM

Breakout Session

How Health Harming Legal Needs can be Addressed to Benefit Under-Resourced Populations in Wyoming- Angie Dorsch

The successful Medical Legal Partnership (MLP) in Cheyenne forms the basis for efforts to increase the number of MLPs in the state. The history of building that program over ten years ago and some of the success stories from that work will provide the 101-information leading to where expansion is taking place and how more people can get involved in providing this SDOH component to their patients. The speaker is the lead for the project and will adeptly move to Q & A once the presentation is completed. See Learning Objectives to show the SDOH domains that are supported by MLPs.

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12:30 PM- 1:45 PM

Lunch- Sponsored by Enroll Wyoming & Session option

Wyoming 211's CommuniCare Unveiled

Nichole Coyne & Sarah Martin- Wyoming 211
Tessa McInnis- CRN

Wyoming 211 and the CommuniCare team, with the support of our partners at Community Resource Network (CRN), will demonstrate how a Community Information Exchange (CIE) can support and streamline communication within Care Teams. The consent based platform allows access to the Wyoming 211 resources enabling multi-directional electronic referrals for health and social needs. It is no longer a dream, it is our reality to help improve community wellness and whole person care.



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1:45 PM- 3:00 PM

Breakout Session

Motivational Interviewing: Enhancing Engagement and Self-Management for Better Health and Governance- Leslie Manson

Motivational Interviewing (MI) is a powerful, evidence-based communication approach that helps individuals build confidence, strengthen decision-making, and take an active role in their own well-being. This session will explore how MI can be applied in both healthcare and governance settings to improve self-management, support behavior change, and enhance community engagement. Participants will learn how MI can be used to empower individuals, foster effective board leadership, and address key Social Determinants of Health (SDOH). By incorporating MI into professional and community roles, attendees will gain valuable skills to facilitate positive change and improve outcomes in both individual and organizational settings.

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1:45 PM- 3:00 PM

Breakout Session

Addressing SDOH through UW ECHO: Building Communities of Practice, Evidence-Based-Best Practices, and Case-Based Learning- Emily Lube and Cari Glantz

This session will explore how UW ECHO programs have been addressing the social drivers of health affecting Wyomingites. UW ECHO programs have addressed topics including best practices for suicide prevention, discussing youth substance use in the school setting, and supporting families of children with complex healthcare needs. We will look at the core components of the ECHO model and how those components support building communities of practice, remove silos, share evidence-based best practices, and apply case-based learning.



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1:45 PM- 3:00 PM

Breakout Session

The Power of Family Resource Centers- Infrastructure and Data- Jackie Sievers and Kelly Wessels

Family Resource Centers provide foundational support and education to the community members that they serve. This session will discuss both Data and Doing. Kelly Wessels will focus on the purpose of outreach, techniques, strategies that create impact and bring communities together around vulnerable populations for greater outcomes. Jackie Sievers will discuss how infrastructure can streamline workflows and bring data together for reporting, demonstrating successes, and informing the community of the immense value that FRCs bring.



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3:00 PM- 3:15 PM

Vendor Break

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3:15 PM- 4:30 PM

Keynote Speaker

Wyoming Medicaid- Opportunities for Partnership- Dr. Paul Johnson

In his presentation, Dr. Johnson will provide a brief overview of the Medicaid program and opportunities and challenges to addressing health related social needs, including partnerships with community based organizations.