

Practice Change Leaders: California Community Transitions Project

Partners in Care Foundation (*Partners*) is using a state program, California Community Transitions (CCT), that we adapted and started operating 2017 as the project for Practice Change Leaders. CCT provides an advocate for low-income older adults to ensure their successful return to the community by actively engaging them while they are in the nursing home and expediting care transitions services for them. *Partners'* staff will oversee all transitional services for the client, creates a personalized care plan, and obtains available resources to meet their needs. Services may include: arranging specialty and primary care appointments, housing, moving assistance, assistive technology, personal care services, mental health/addiction supports, transportation, and financial assistance. By receiving CCT services, we increase an individual's quality of life and help assure their improved health.

In 2018, *Partners* will grow volume of older adults using CCT, establish a proof of concept, and create an outreach strategy for the integrated model of CCT that we are operating in collaboration with a small group of Medicaid health plans. We work directly with Medi-Cal (California's Medicaid program) health plans to engage clients and ensure they receive CCT services. Integration is emphasized in the new model, and the health plan takes an active role early in the individuals transition out of the facility. The health plans are better equipped to identify the potential client, verify their eligibility, and conduct an initial visit with them to gauge their interest in the program and receiving transitional care services from *Partners*. If the client is interested, they then receive a "warm hand-off" to *Partners* staff. The model of CCT that we have pioneered will promote the greater integration between community organizations and health plans who work to transition older adults out of the nursing home and back into the community. This project will focus on older adults residing in nursing homes who have Medi-Cal (California's Medicaid program) or are dually eligible and have the ability and desire to transition back into their community.