

# Implementing an EMR in a Ryan White-Funded Community Health Center

Presented by: Karin Werner Vice President of Grants Management Unity Health Care, Inc.

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- Introduce Unity Health Care
- Summarize Unity's EMR Implementation Experience
- Describe Early Benefits of EMR
- Present Reporting Challenges and Successes
- Highlight Unity's Next Steps to Achieving Meaningful Use



**Unity Health Care** 

- Unity's Mission is: "to offer a citywide network of quality health and human services to the medically underserved regardless of race, ethnic background, or ability to pay."
- A Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and Ryan White Parts A, B, and C grantee/sub-grantee
- In 2009, served 81,250 patients, 2,500 of whom were living with HIV
- Large network of 20+ sites, including health centers, homeless service sites, correctional sites, and mobile sites



# **PM/EMR System**

- eClinicalWorks (eCW) is an integrated practice management (PM) and electronic medical record (EMR) application
- Customized eCW for Unity's needs and workflows
- Implemented PM in all sites March 2009
- Implemented EMR in phased approach (5 phases)
  June December 2009
- All clinical providers and staff use eCW, except dental (which is still on paper)



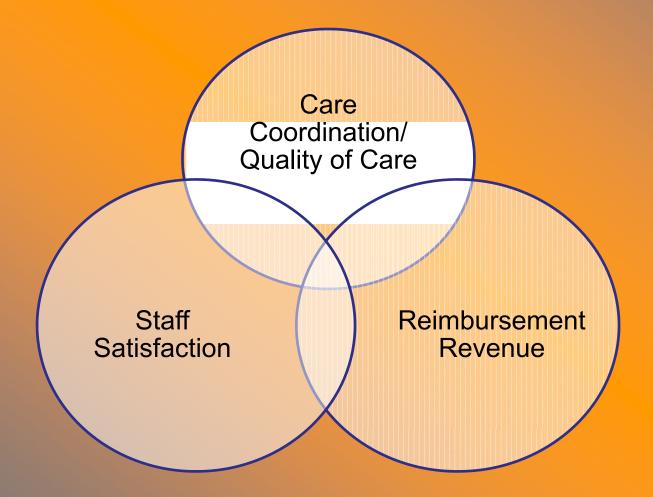
### eClinicalWorks (eCW)

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#### EMR Stabilization: Early Benefits Realized





### EMR Stabilization: Early Challenge

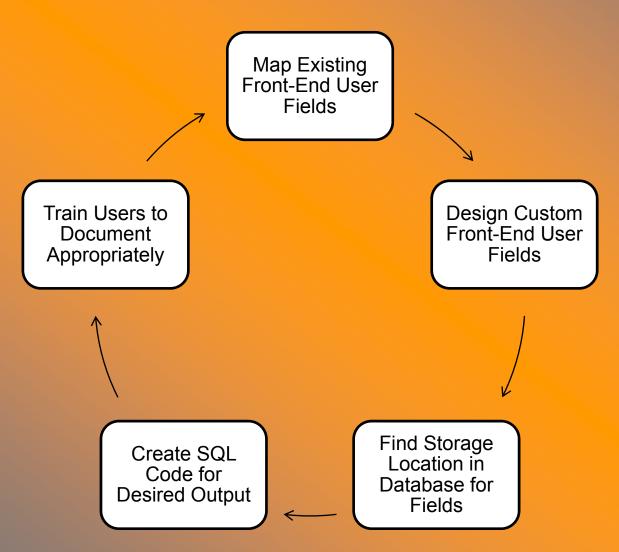
- Reporting:
  - Lack of data dictionary



- Customized workflows for analysts and staff to learn
- Inconsistent data entry
- New reporting requirements (RSR client-level data)
- Extracting data from multiple systems
- Prioritization: If you build it, they will ask!



#### EMR Stabilization: Reports Customization





#### **Custom Fields**

HPI Notes									
Free-form	)	Structured							
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#### Reports: Lessons Learned

- Use structured fields to capture important reportable data
- Design essential custom fields prior to go-live
- Apply user feedback regarding data capture within efficient workflows
- Providers hate paperwork!





### Reports: Lessons Learned

- Find ways to eliminate duplicative paperwork through electronic reporting
- Review reports for missing fields early
- Provide feedback early to providers and staff regarding performance on data entry
- Be Patient: Review, remind, and re-train!





#### Meaningful Use: Introduction

- As part of the HITECH Act, incentives will be offered starting in 2011 for meeting meaningful use; By 2015, fines may be in place for not meeting it.
- Basic Requirements: Use EHRs in a meaningful way, promote care coordination, and report clinical quality measures
- Must meet 14 required elements and 5 from the optional list
- Benefits: Incentive payments from CMS up to
  \$63,750 per provider per year for those who qualify

# Achieving Meaningful Use: Unity's Next Steps

- Participate in the local RHIO
- Develop patient portal or personal health records
- Implement call reminder system
- Purchase e-prescribing
- Implement dental module
- Provide technology for eCW use on Unity's mobile van





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Unity's PM/EMR Team for hard work, dedication, and the willingness to take on new challenges every day