# **DD** Plus

An Interdisciplinary Learning Collaborative to Improve Rural Primary Care for Children with Complex Needs

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#### **Partnerships**

- Mission Children's Hospital
- Hendersonville Pediatrics
- McDowell Pediatrics
- MAHEC
- NC DHHS
- **The Arc of NC**
- Complex Systems Innovation

- □ NC START
- Family Representative
- Carolina Institute for Developmental Disability UNC Chapel Hill
- Asheville City Schools EC Department



# Why did Mission Children's do this pilot?

- Limited availability of DD specialists, including developmental pediatricians
- To increase local access to quality care in primary care medical home for rural patients
- To enhance integrated team-based health care: prevention of more serious problems.
- To increase family navigation and other family support services
- To strengthen relationships among regional providers of DD services
- To prepare for Medicaid transformation



#### Background

Pilot project overview

Population
Purpose and Goal
Outcomes

Evaluation



### **Pilot Components**

- Consortium / Advisory Committee
- Implementation Team
- Family Navigator
- Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Training
- Collaborative Office Rounds -Interdisciplinary Training and professional support
- Specialty telephone consults with providers
- Patient Registry



## **Quotes from providers**

"Participating in DD+ helps break down the barriers for my patients with special needs. I have now built a relationship with my consultants at Olson Huff and am more comfortable reaching out to ask them a question to get my patient help, rather than waiting months for a consult. This helps me provide more timely patient centered care."

Rebecca Thomson, MD MAHEC



## **Quotes from providers**

"I really value you and your teams feedback...I really do feel on my own sometimes. I wish we could have a Olson Huff satellite clinic up in our neck of the woods. Once the DD Plus Project is over I may see if we can continue some sort of consultation."

William Dalton, Psychologist, Hendersonville Pediatrics



# **Challenges and Lessons Learned**

#### Seek to understand:

- What language are you speaking?
- Where are organizations coming from politically? What are their primary concerns?
- What does the local village look like? How can they help serve the patient?
- □ How are you working with the MCO?
- Case-based learning through Collaborative Office Rounds is a valuable and effective model of increasing capacity



#### How will we sustain this model?

- Mission Health Investment in specialty practice
- Family navigator in Healthy Opportunities RFI
- Looking at other research opportunities
- Looking for rural hotspots for next phase
- Medicaid funding for family navigation



#### Mission DD Plus & MAHEC IDD Clinic

- Families resources, referrals and navigation.
- Primary care practice and provider assistance
- Team approach to address whole person care, including social determinants of health
- Referral and linkage requires multiple partners, communication and flexibility
- Launched to address improved access and quality of care in the rural primary care setting
- Medicaid Transformation



#### Meet the Team

- Physician Consultant: Adrian Sandler, MD
- BHC Consultant: Jarod Coffey, LCSW LCAS
- Psychology Consultant: Steve Love, PhD
- Psychiatry Consultant: Steve Baker, MD
- Family Navigator: Kerri Eaker
- Project Coordinator: Christine Malloy, MPA
- Project Advisor: Karen Luken
- Evaluator: Gary Walby, PhD
- Integration Consultant: Eric Christian, LPC
- VAYA Health LME MCO: Christina Dupuch, Rhonda Cox, Kristy Pruess

- NC Start: Michelle Klutz, Anne Doucette, PhD LPC
- **D** Physician Champions:
  - Ashley McClary, MD
  - Robert Duffey, MD
  - Rebecca Thomson, MD
  - Josh Gettinger, MD
  - 🗅 Rob Christian, MD
  - Zane Kalter, MD
- Behavior Health Counselors:
  - Jennifer Combs, LCSW
  - Elizabeth Williams, LPA
  - Valerie Krall, LPC
  - Will Dalton, PhD



#### **Presenter Info**

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