# SPRING 2019 NEWSLET

welcome

**Southeast Health Statera Network** Balancing Quality and Cost to create Healthcare Value



Welcome to the Spring 2019 edition of the official newsletter of Southeast Health Statera Network. On behalf of the Statera Network Board of Directors and the Executive Staff we want to thank you for your continued participation as members of the Statera Network Clinical Integration Organization, and Accountable Care Organization.

## **Board of Directors and Executive Staff**

It is an exciting time to be part of the Statera Network. The Board of Directors recently approved moving forward with the application to become a licensed Accountable Care Organization (ACO) with The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). As a CMS licensed Accountable Care Organization, Statera will be responsible for an estimated 16,000 Medicare lives. That will effectively TRIPLE the number of lives under Statera management. We are also beginning our first year with Humana Medicare Advantage as a partner of Statera Network. As a result, Statera Physicians will have the opportunity to impact a much larger portion of our community.

To prepare for the launch of the ACO, Heather Hall (Statera's Network Relations Manager) will be attending the National Association of ACOs (NAACOS) conference in Baltimore, Maryland at the end of April. More information about NAACOS can be found at www. naacos.com. In addition, Heather is meeting with many practices and post-acute facilities to help our partners understand the requirements of participation in the ACO Medicare Shared Savings Program called "Pathways to Success". In addition, Arajec Collazo-Debien (Statera Analyst) will be attending the Spring Conference of The Leaders Board on Population Health called "Maximizing Your Information Systems for Population Health".

As a reminder, an important part of a CIN or an ACO is the involvement of physicians in both the governance and the direction setting for the organization, which includes the committees mentioned above. If any of these committees are of interest to you or if you would like more information, please contact Kristie Covington in the Statera Network Office at 334-712-3143.

Sincerely,

**Donavon Wewers, MD**, Chairman, Board of Directors **Marc J. Miller, MBA, FACHE, FACMPE, Chief Executive Officer** 



### New Name, New Look, SAME STATERA

You have probably noticed that your newsletter looks a little bit different. You may have even noticed a slight change in the name of Statera. We began as Statera Health, an organization affiliated with the Houston County Healthcare Authority (HCHCA) and Southeast Alabama Medical Center. When the HCHCA decided to rebrand their affiliated entities, the Statera Health Board of Directors agreed to rebrand as well. As an entity of the HCHCA (now known as Southeast Health), and an affiliate of Southeast Health Medical Center, we are now known as Southeast Health Statera Network. Our name has changed a little. Our look has changed a lot. Our business model and our dedication to our physicians and our community remain the same!



Statera Network is gearing up for the launch of the Medicare Shared Savings Program on July 1, 2019. This program is also known as Pathways to Success (PTS). Although the official launch of the program is July 1<sup>st</sup>, many hours have already been spent preparing for success. The application to become a licensed ACO with CMS was submitted in February. CMS has a lengthy application review process that includes several Requests for Information (RFIs) which will be sent to the Statera staff over the next three months. We are thrilled to be working with our consulting company Dixon, Hughes, Goodman (DHG) to meet all CMS requirements through the application process.

The primary factor for success in managing costs is to have enough staff to take care of patients and track patient data. To be certain that Statera is in the best possible position on July

1st, we have hired LaShonda Curry, RN as our post-acute care nurse and Ashley Shingler as our data analyst designated to the ACO. Brief bios for both Ashley and Lashonda are featured in this newsletter. We will also be hiring additional staff before the launch date of July 1.

CMS has stated that 60% of the potential impact on quality of care for an ACO is in the post-acute area. Your Statera Network staff has been making on-site visits to key post-acute care facilities in the area to introduce Statera and begin forming relationships and partnerships that will ensure high-quality, cost-efficient care for your Medicare patients. In addition, we are beginning to collaborate with Statera family practice and internal medicine clinics on roles and responsibilities of both Statera and the participating clinics. We are excited to face the challenges of an ACO and are ready to work with all Statera physicians to put Statera and Southeast Health on the national ACO map. More updates to come!



Statera Network would like to welcome members who have joined since the last newsletter was produced. We are pleased to continue to add to our membership. This continuing growth is a testament to the dedication of area physicians to improving the health of our community.

> George Nelson, MD Digestive Health Specialists of the Southeast

> > Amanda Murray, MD Dothan Pediatric Clinic

> > **Gregory Myers, MD** Dothan Pediatric Clinic

Raymond Sutkowski, MD Radiology Associates of Dothan

Michael Kreger, MD Anesthesia Consultants Medical Group

Brannon Heape, DMD Southeastern Oral & Maxillofacial

Tiffany Sexton, MD Southeast Health Medical Center Hospitalists



**Ashley Shingler** 

Statera Network is happy to announce that we have a new team member to support our Statera Physicians. Ashley Shingler joins the Statera staff as a Data Analyst who will be focusing on data for the ACO. She will be responsible for validating data and providing useful reports for internal and external entities.

Ashley earned her BA in Mathematics and MAT in secondary education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and would like to say "GO TARHEELS!" Ashley then attended the University of Phoenix School of Business where she received her Masters in Accounting. She spent three and a half years as a Senior Planning Analyst at First Health of the Carolinas where she was responsible for cost process of three hospitals, clinic financial reporting for 51 clinics, and physician statistics for 184 providers. She then worked briefly as a financial analyst at another hospital before making Southeast Health's Decision Support Department her home for the last two and a half years. We are thrilled to have her join our team and put her years of experience to work!

Ashley lives in the Donalsonville, Georgia area. She has two sons: Emmett, 10, and Travis, 6. She enjoys supporting her boys in Cub Scouts and various sports. They currently participate in football, basketball, and more. In the small amount of free time she has left, she enjoys exercising.

Ashley's experience makes her a valuable asset to our team and we are already enjoying working with her!



LaShonda Curry

Statera Network is pleased to welcome LaShonda Curry, RN as our new Post-Acute Care Manager.

LaShonda will be working with Medicare patients attributed to the Statera Network to ensure that each patient receives the highest quality care. She plans to achieve this by increasing patient knowledge and being a patient care advocate.

LaShonda became a licensed LPN in 1993 and worked with SAMC from 1993 - 2001 as a Med/Surg nurse. She has experience on the Cardiac, Oncology, & Cardiovascular Surgery floors. LaShonda then returned to Wallace College and obtained her Associate Degree in Nursing in 2008. She has worked with Wesley Manor as a Rehab Nurse & Risk Manager and as the coordinator for the Alzheimer's Unit. She then joined the Southern Clinic staff as an Internal Medicine nurse and spent 8 and a half years with Dr. Morriss and his clinic. Most recently, she has worked as a Case manager with Kindred at Home.

LaShonda is a busy mother of two girls who are very active in the school and community. Her oldest is preparing for high school graduation, plays in the band at school, actively participates in church activities, and plans to attend Troy University in the fall. Go Trojans! La Shonda's youngest daughter is a busy athlete who participates in basketball, volleyball, and track, and plays in the band as well!

La Shonda is a huge asset to the Statera team and we are so excited to have the opportunity to work with her!



action alley

Here are the actions your Committees and Board of Directors have taken on behalf of the Statera Membership in the last few months.

november

• Quality Initiatives will be approved for two-year terms to allow reporting in the second year to determine if Initiative will be renewed after the initial two-year period.

December

• Unanimous election of Dr. Ralph Fillmore, retired, as ACO Board Medicare beneficiary member • Southeast Health Medical Center Health Plan Agreement approved for 2019

 Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama Blue Advantage Medicare Advantage Agreement approved for 2019 • Viva Health Medicare Advantage and Connect 4 Quality Agreement approved for 2019 Board Officer Elections were held. Dr. Donavon Wewers- Chairman, Dr. Charles Harkness - Vice-Chairman, Derek Miller - Secretary/Treasurer

January

• Elected not to move forward with UHC MA partnership in 2019 Successfully submitted ACO Licensing Application for the "Pathways to Success" Medicare Shared Savings Program.

February

• Approved new name and logo Approved 2019 Humana Medicare Advantage partnership.

Statera has many opportunities for all members to get involved. If you are interested in joining any Committee, please reach out to the Committee Chairman or to Kristie Covington at Statera Health.



#### Clinical Integration and Quality Improvement Committee: first Wednesday of each month at 6am. Chairman: Dr. James A. Robeson, Jr.

Responsible for the clinical integration program development, design, management, and measurement and the development of quality improvement programs and utilization management protocols.



#### Physician Participation Committee: first Wednesday of each month at 6am. Chairman: Dr. Sam J. Tarwater

Responsible for communication of the activities and successes of the Organization to area physicians and encouragement of participation by those Physicians who may be able to contribute to the Organization's goals. Also responsible for Coaching and Remediation Activities for the physician membership.



#### **Contracting & Payor Relations Committee:** second Thursday of each month at 5pm. Chairman: Dr. Donavon Wewers

Responsible for developing managed care arrangements for the benefit of Participants and shall have such other powers as determined by the Board.

#### **Finance & Audit Committee:** second Thursday of each month at 5pm Chairman: Dr. Donavon Wewers

Responsible for the integrity of financial statements, the effectiveness of internal controls over financial reporting, the efficiency and effectiveness of operations, compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the external auditor's qualifications and independence and the performance of the internal and external audit functions.

For information regarding Statera Health 334-712-3143



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