

# **Project Charter**

### **Project Description / Purpose**

Decrease health disparities by identifying health needs by increasing access to	
preventative screenings.	
Southwest Network Pediatric Clinics	
Complete metabolic laboratory testing and vitals for children receiving services as	
identified in best practices from SAMHSA.	
Process, policies, and increase health equity to patients.	

#### **Project Description / Purpose**

Health disparities are inequitable and are directly related to the unequal distribution of social, political, environmental resources. For the children that are receiving psychiatric care in Southwest Networks pediatric clinics, this comes in the form of increased incidence of chronic conditions because of necessary prescribing of antipsychotic medications. Identifying risk factors for childhood diabetes, hypertension, and obesity will be increased with routine, scheduled metabolic testing for all children prescribed antipsychotic medications, which significantly increases risk factors for chronic conditions. Completion of metabolic screenings and vitals (height, weight, blood pressure, lipid profiles, other as clinically indicated).

### **Project Overview**

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Problem Summary:	Antipsychotic prescribing for children and adolescents can elevate risk factors for developing serious metabolic health complications that can lead to lifelong chronic conditions (NCQA, 2024). Antipsychotic medications can lead to weight gain, insulin resistance, hyperlipidemia, increase the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes and other cardiovascular diseases. Regular metabolic testing ensures early detection and management of these potential side effects, safeguarding the child's overall health and well-being while enabling the safe and effective use of necessary psychiatric treatments.
Desired Outcome(s):	Identify risk factors that could lead to chronic conditions by offering preventative metabolic screenings for each child prescribed antipsychotic medications. Offering families resources to decrease the risk of developing chronic conditions through community cares (UNITEUS) closed loop system, and other community providers.
Benefits:	Addressing risk factors are important for improving overall health, reducing health disparities in the community.

#### Timeline

Description of Task and Completion Dates	Description of Task and Completion Dates
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Task 1	Provide primary education to all staff about the process for completing labs, vitals, and best practices for prescribing. The marketing team is completing educational literature for staff and patients/families.  This will be completed by 07/31/2024
Task 2	Identification of all patients <17 years old prescribed antipsychotic medications and are in need of metabolic testing. Completion date: 07/06/2024
Task 3	Outreach families and schedule routine preventative screenings at their regularly scheduled medication management appointment. Results will be shared with prescribing clinicians and primary care providers. Completion date: 08/15/2024
Task 4	Follow up appts, via telemedicine or in person (patient choice), will provide results and provide education, resources to families. Completion date: 09/30/2024 and ongoing process
Task 5	The quality team will assess process and offer continuous quality improvement activities. Completion date: ongoing

<sup>\*</sup> Add new rows as needed.



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### **Project Scope**

### **In Scope Project Objectives**

One of the areas the organization will focus on over the next year is to improve health equity across the population. This will be accomplished by having an incremental increase in access to healthcare services, including preventative screenings. Another area will be to provide continuous education to staff, patients and stakeholders in prevention strategies and need.

### **Out of Scope Project Objectives or Activities**

Hiring of staff dedicated to providing education, laboratory services and prevention education training to all populations.

### **Project Team**

Team Lead:	Crystal Domblisky-Klein, MPH	Project Champion:	Elizabeth Odahlen, MAPC
Process Owner:	Crystal Domblisky-Klein, MPH	Process Manager:	Janelle Westfall, LPC

Stakeholders			
Stakeholder	Title	Department	Organization
Nahid Nadiri, MD	Medical Director	Administration	Southwest network
Jaime Michel, MD Tiffany Sylvester, NP	Psychiatrist , BHMP	Childrens division	Southwest Network
AHCCCS and Mercy Care	Funding sources/insurance carriers		

Project Team Members		
Name	Team Role	
Alex Romonoski, Data Intelligence Director	Data integrity and process	
Katrina Noyes, MPA	Chief Quality and Compliance Officer	
Lana Winnie, LPC	Clinical Director	
Rogelio Calderon, LASAC	Director of Training and Development	
David Conger, LMSW	Director of Quality	

### **Signatures**

Process Owner	
Project Champion	Clizabeth Odahlen
Team Leader	M