June 2, 2014

Dear Community Partner:

Saint Peter’s University Hospital has applied for funding from New Jersey’s Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program (DSRIP). DSRIP is one component of the state’s Comprehensive Medicaid Waiver as approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). It is a demonstration program designed to result in better care for individuals (including access to care, quality of care, and health outcomes), better health for the population, and lower costs by transitioning hospital funding to a model where payment is contingent on achieving health improvement goals and benchmarks.

Saint Peter’s will develop and implement a patient centered medical home for patients with a high need and the uninsured or underinsured adult population diagnosed with diabetes mellitus and hypertension, resulting in an improved overall quality of care. Patients will be entered into the program via ambulatory care (outpatient) services, the emergency department, inpatient services, same-day service locations, and community health screenings conducted by hospital staff. The program will include: use of multi-therapeutic outpatient evidence-based management; lifestyle modification, nutritional consultation, intensive hospital discharge planning, a dedicated patient navigation system, and improved social services. It will be based at our Family Health Center at 123 How Lane, New Brunswick, NJ.

Care improvement will be accomplished through addressing both medical and social care needs in a comprehensive, holistic manner. Care team members will include physicians, advanced practice nurses, registered nurses, social workers/case managers, nutritionist, and transition coaches with care organized and coordinated to achieve our project outcomes.

Desired project outcomes are the following: reduce admissions, reduce emergency department visits, improve care processes, and increase patient satisfaction.

To achieve successful outcomes within our safety net clinical system, we are pursuing collaboration with our partnering hospitals and agencies that will support the implementation of this effort. This proposal enhances and strengthens our collaboration and relationship between your agency and Saint Peter’s. Overall, it aims to implement system and policy changes, and equally important, to provide support, leverage resources and training to ensure sustained team-based care changes around the specific needs of pre-diabetics, uncontrolled diabetes, individuals at risk for hypertension, and hypertensive patients.
For all the reasons noted above, we are counting on your support for our program and are eager to partner with your agency on this very important initiative. I will be contacting you soon to schedule a meeting concerning this partnership. I can be reached at 732-745-8600 ext.6773 or by email at mdrozd@saintpetersuh.com with any questions.

Thank you for your anticipated support of this program and its goal of improving the overall quality of care for patients diagnosed with diabetes mellitus and hypertension.

Yours in good health,

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Margaret Drozd, MSN, RN, APRN-BC
Director, Community Mobile Health Services
Saint Peter’s University Hospital