Class of 2026 | **AHA Next Generation Leaders Fellow**



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Age-Friendly Scholarship Recipient

Situation Analysis

The team at Sedwick County Heath Center, a 15-bed rural critical access hospital, identified challenges in medication reconciliation and care transition communication that elevated patient safety risks for patients 65 or older.

The John A. Hartford Foundation

Project Goals

- Develop, refine and validate a Patient Discharge Complexity Score.
- Improve timeliness of care management assessments.
- Reduce length of stay for patients with complex medical and social needs.
- Establish system analytics and leadership reporting.

Actions Taken

- Standardized workflows, including establishing Cerner as the “single source of truth.”
- Standardized communication through the Message Center.
- Established standardized age-friendly care policies, workflows and accountability across care settings using the 4Ms Framework — What Matters, Medication, Mentation and Mobility.
- Conducting monthly medication reconciliation audits for every patient.

Positive Outcomes

- Reduced provider order turnaround from approximately six days to under 48 hours.
- Improved medication safety by reducing recurring discrepancies to zero.
- Successfully implemented a new care transition workflow that prioritizes documentation, review and reconciliation — and delivers safer care for older adult patients.
- 4Ms documentation was completed on 100% of Medicare Annual Wellness Visits.

For detailed information, visit:
www.aha.org/center/next-generation-leaders-fellowship

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