The Bronx RHIO recently established a collaboration with the Advanced Health Network/Recovery Health Solutions (AHN/RHS) Integrated Practice Association (IPA), a New York State Behavioral Health Collaborative (BHCC), and its network providers in support of optimizing health information exchange and developing a data warehouse integral to its overall business intelligence strategic goals. The investments being made in health information exchange and data warehouse are focused on continuous improvement in data transformed into actionable information for care coordination, quality management, population health management and alternative/value based payments.

The AHN/RHS IPAs are a provider network comprised of 48 independent behavioral health (BH) and/or social determinants of health (SDOH) organizations across all five NYC boroughs and Long Island committed to developing a sustainable system-wide data analytics infrastructure supporting providers with relevant, actionable data for quality performance measurement, care coordination of their patients and population health management. The partnership between AHN/RHS and the Bronx RHIO is focused on building a data warehouse integrating electronic medical record (EMRs) data from multiple behavioral healthcare settings, such as inpatient, outpatient, recovery, residential, treatment, as well as mental health and substance use providers and primary care. Additionally, AHN/RHS is ingesting unique SDOH data from external sources such as NYS OASAS, which will be combined with the previously mentioned patient data. This data will support providers in their continuous process improvement in care of patients and management of defined populations as measured through behavioral health measures including HEDIS scores of FUA (Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Dependence), FUM (Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Mental Illness) and IET (Initiation and Engagement of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Dependence Treatment).

Throughout this collaboration, AHN/RHS and the Bronx RHIO are investing in and developing best practices in data governance, data standardization and normalization, and data quality. Data is the new asset that transcends the organization across executives, management and staff. AHN/RHS, Bronx RHIO and the network providers are investing in a data-driven healthcare culture, building trust through education, data quality reviews, management of data measures, testing of solutions and comparative analysis across providers. Inclusive of the focus on data quality is continued education of obtaining patient consents required for compliance in accessing patient data. This education includes not only the integration of data usage in the provider’s overall culture, but also how access to data can support both patient centered care and overall population health improvement. To further accomplish this goal, AHN/RHS continuously works closely with their network and provides trainings via webinars as well as 1:1 sessions with providers. Additionally, the integrated data warehouse that is being built within this collaboration will support the development of a longitudinal patient record comprised of behavioral, medical, and SDOH data to inform clinical decision-making, manage clinical teams, support quality improvement, and lead organizations to be more data informed and driven.

An example of this collaboration includes the advancement of real-time hospital alerts providing more robust data to inform AHN/RHS network providers in improving care coordination and address gaps in patient care. The goal of these alerts is to support providers in their patient outreach and engagement as measured by industry prioritized behavioral health measures including HEDIS measures along with AHN/RHS own developed 30, 60, and 90 data engagement measures. The more robust data assists providers with a better understanding of the risk-level and care requirements of each patient as they continue to engage patients in their
treatment and recovery programs. Additionally, developing and providing an enhanced ED alert report that includes more comprehensive patient information, such as SDOH data, will further support providers in care management and coordination efforts.

Bronx RHIO is proud to be working with AHN/RHS and its providers in promoting a more data-driven approach to patient centered quality care to best meet the needs and well-being of their patients and looks forward to continuing this collaboration. For more information, please reach out to information@bronxrhio.org.