

ENHANCING DIABETES CARE IN MICHIGAN: EMPOWERING PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS THROUGH THE DIABETES PROJECT ECHO INITIATIVE

Renee Calkins, MPH
Education Manager
Michigan Center for Rural Health

PROJECT ECHO

- Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) was developed at the University of New Mexico.
- ECHO is a lifelong learning and guided practice model that revolutionizes education and exponentially increases workforce capacity to provide best-practice specialty care and reduce health disparities.
- The heart of the ECHO model[™] is its hub-and-spoke knowledge-sharing networks, led by expert teams who use multi-point videoconferencing to conduct virtual clinics with community providers. ALL TEACH, ALL LEARN Model.
- In this way, primary care doctors, nurses, and other clinicians learn to provide excellent specialty care to patients in their own communities.

OVERVIEW AND GOALS



Michigan Center for Rural Health and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Diabetes and Kidney Unit are partnering to offer educational programming regarding diabetes care.

We are gathering information on your primary care office and gauging your interest in the Diabetes Project ECHO.

The goal of Diabetes ECHO is to increase the capacity of primary care providers (PCPs) and clinics to empower and safely and effectively manage patients with diabetes who do not receive routine specialty care.

OBJECTIVES



Diabetes Project ECHO benefits to primary care providers:

- Gain knowledge on best practices for people with Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes
- Earn free educational CME credits: AMA Credit for physicians, nurses, NPs, PAs
- Receive patient and practice support from diabetes specialists.
- Access device companies and other diabetes resources.
- Learn about new continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) technologies and real-time data sharing with patients.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

- MCRH sent out a survey to access interest in the ECHO as well as obtain information about diabetes in rural health clinics.
- The survey is still open!









- We are hoping to have the education starting in Spring of 2025.
- From the survey's we've received, monthly ECHO clinics
- Topics still being discussed and formulated.

RECRUITING FOR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT STUDY



- MCRH will engage RHCs to identify and monitor workflow processes for referrals to Diabetic Retinopathy exams.
- Gather Baseline data of clinic.
- Look for ways to improve workflow, closing the loop with eye exams, etc.
- Stipends for clinics will be available
- Are you interested in looking at this quality initiative?







Questions?

Renee Calkins, MPH Education Manager Renee.calkins@affiliate.msu.edu