Dear friends,

A special thing happened in Baltimore this month. Upstreamists from 31 healthcare organizations around the country—trailblazers who have been working to move care upstream in their own institutions, in their communities, and with each other—came together for the first time. A range of leaders shared how care is improving, with the health system and community-based health interventions working in tandem.

The HealthBegins team and I traveled to Baltimore to meet them. There, amid the in-depth sessions and spontaneous conversations, we saw evidence of an important fact that has been on my mind: that the right tools and workflows are essential to transforming care. But not enough to ensure success. For that, has been one more thing: the leaders engaged in this work.

Leaders and Staff for Success.” We explored why the complexity of big change demands that we actively work to identify diverse stakeholders, reach out to them and engage them. As the upsteam journey often runs through uncharted waters, leaders need to be able to navigate the resource landscape and find the people who can help.

These leaders hail from the 31 organizations participating in the CMS Collaborative of upstream-improvement leaders — including those in Baltimore, Baltimore, and the nation. They are the block leaders, the hospital leaders, the community leaders, and those we spotlighted in my 2013 TED Book, Upstream: The Road to Better Health, Better Lives.

The Upstreamist is someone who..., teaching and learning with each other. Together, we will show the impact of a new kind of leader for a new kind of care. We’ll cultivate that new leadership can and should spring from unconventional corners — from colleagues such as community partners, social IT specialists to receptionists — and they must include the natural stakeholders can include everyone from clinicians to case managers.

There are three things: the courage to inspire trust in a very short period of time, common struggle; the courage to inspire trust in a very short period of time, common struggle; the courage to inspire trust in a very short period of time, common struggle; and that new leadership can and should spring from unconventional corners — from colleagues such as community partners, social workers, or patients themselves.

As we paddle upstream to address social needs and improve... leadership. The health sector is waking up.

Best,

Rishi Manchanda

NYC Health + Hospitals is recruiting a Medical Director, Social Determinants of Health. The position is currently open to candidates globally.

Click here to learn more about the opportunity.

Rishi Manchanda

MIT Technology Review

Health Affairs Blog

Improve Care, Trim Costs

Health News...