## PARTNERSHIP HEALTHPLAN OF CALIFORNIA (PARTNERSHIP) MEETING MINUTES

Committee:	Physician Advisory Committee
Date / Time:	May 8, 2024 - 7:30 to 9:00 a.m.

Brown Act flexibilities have ended. Voting members are required to attend in-person at one of Partnership HealthPlan's posted locations.

Members Present:	Angela Brennan, DO <i>(FF)</i> Karen Sprague, MSN, CFNP <i>(FF)</i> Noemi Doohan, MD <i>(CC)</i> Jonathan McDermott, FNP <i>(BC)</i> Michelle Herman, MD <i>(FF)</i>	Malia Honda, MD (E) Darrick Nelson, MD (R) Danielle Oryn, DO (A)	Darrick Nelson, MD (R) Melanie Thompson, DO (M		AM Ampla Health A Aliados Health TF Tahoe Forest RS Sutter-Roseville CC CenCal Health OMM Office of Dr. Matheson
Members Excused:	Steve Gwiazdowski, MD (Chair) Theresa Shinder, MD	Matthew Zavod, MD Vanessa Walker, DO	Candy Stockton, MD Chris Myers, MD	Suzanne Eidson-Ton, MD	
Members Absent:	Mustafa Ammar, MD	Karina Gookin, MD			
Visitor:					
Partnership Staff:	Sonja Bjork, Chief Executive Officer Patti McFarland, Chief Financial Offi Wendi Davis, Chief Operating Office Lynn Scuri, Regional Director Mary Kerlin, Sr. Dir., Prov. Relations Lisa O'Connell, Associate Director or Housing and Incentive Programs Doreen Crume, RN, N. Mgr. Care Co Stephanie Nakatani, Supervisor, Prov Relations Representatives Vicky Klakken, Mgr, North Region Brigid Gast, RN, Dir. of CC	icer Katherine Barresi, RN, G rr Colleen Townsend, MD Mark Netherda, MD, M s (PR) Jeffrey DeVido, MD, B f Stan Leung, Pharm.D., I Debra McAllister, RN, A pord. Sue Quichocho, Mgr., Q	Chief Health Services Officer, Regional Med. Director, Regional Med. Directoredical Director for Qualityehavioral Health Clinical Dir.Director, Pharmacy ServicesAssoc. Dir. UM StrategiesQuality Measurementof QI Programsciate Medical DirectorprotectorDirector	Jeffrey Ribordy, MD, Northern H R. Doug Matthews, MD, Eastern Marshall Kubota, MD, Regional Teresa Frankovich, MD, Associa Nancy Steffen, Dir., Quality & P Heather Esget, RN, Director, Uti Kevin Jarret-Lee, RN, Assoc. Di Kristine Gual, Mgr. of Performar Isaac Brown, Director, Quality M Mohamed Jalloh, Pharm.D., Dire Megan Shelton, Project Manager Monika Brunkal, RPh, Interim D David Lavine, Assoc. Dir. of Wo	a Region Medical Director Medical Director ate Medical Director Perf. Improvement ilization Mgmt. (UM) r. of UM nce Improvement Management ector, Health Equity r, Quality Improvement Director, Population Health

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS / ACTION</b>	DATE RESOLVED
Public	PAC acting Chairperson asked for any public comments. None presented.	N/A	N/A
Comments			
Quorum	12/21 – PAC	Committee quorum requirements met (12).	05/08/24

AGENDA	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS					
ITEM	For information only, no formal action required.					
ITEM I.A. Chief Executive Officer Administration Updates	<ul> <li>For information only, no formal action required.</li> <li>Partnership's Chief Health Services Officer (CEO) provided the following report on Partnership activities on behalf of Partnership's Chief Executive Officer.</li> <li>State Budget Updates         <ul> <li>Partnership is watching and waiting for the Governor Newsom's revised May budget to be announced, which is important for programs relying on government funding.</li> <li>There is anywhere between a \$38B and \$70B dollar deficit.</li> <li>Partnership has not heard that there will be any specific cuts to the Medi-Cal program, but something has to be done to close that gap.</li> <li>The governor and the legislature have tools to look for money elsewhere</li> <li>Pulling dollars from reserve funds</li> <li>Using targeted rate increase dollars from the Managed Care Organization (MCO) tax</li> <li>The reason for the MCO ballot initiative qualified to be on the November ballot. It would make the MCO allocation agreements permanent</li> <li>It may be challenging to appeal to voters to approve a tax, but messaging informing the voters that the MCO as pay the tax may be helpful.</li> <li>There was a coalition of providers and hospitals that hammered out the agreement on how to use the dollars in the health care system.</li> <li>Delaying programs of a certinal odlar swent into the general fund, but the advocacy now is to keep those dollars in the health care system.</li> <li>Delaying programs of a certina indollar went into the general fund, but the advocacy now is to keep those dollars in the health care system.</li> <li>Delaying programs of a certina dollar value</li> <li>Partnership puble dheavily for the Health Equity Practice Transformation grants; 27 organizations in our region were selected as grantees. The participating providers within Partnership's network just finished Phase I of</li></ul></li></ul>					
AGENDA	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS					
ITEM	For information only, no formal action required.					

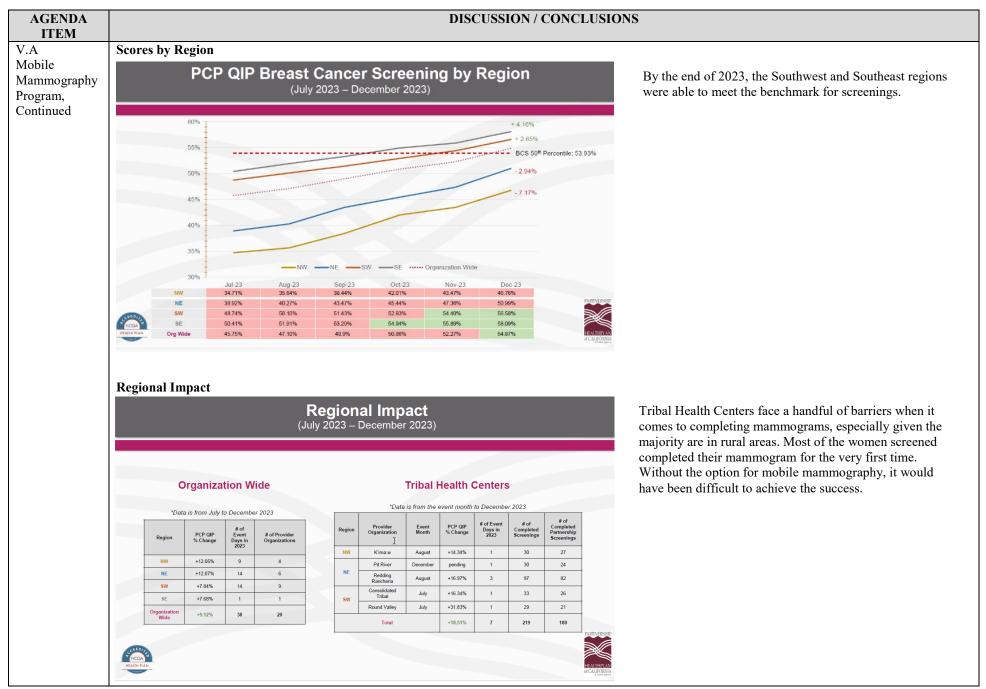
I.B. Chief	Partnership's Southeest Region Medical Director presented a brief update on Health Services activities on behalf of Partnership's Chief Medical			
Medical Officer Health Services	Officer (CMO).			
Report	<ul> <li>Regional Medical Directors' Forums         <ul> <li>Partnership hosted five regional medical directors' forums this spring</li> <li>The detailed notes are available at Partnership's Office of the CMO page.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Focus on Rural Health         <ul> <li>Partnership is looking at policies affecting rural health in California and partnering with medical societies to emphasize rural health.</li> <li>The hope is to leverage the membership of the medical societies and the medical communities to really develop policies and systems that better support rural practices.</li> <li>District 10 and District 11 are supporting a proposal to include rural health equity as a major discussion topic for the October 2024 house of delegates.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Partnership Valib be launching PQD later this month and hosting a webinar to discuss its implementation and share the disparities report.</li> <li>PQD will enable Partnership to look at providers' rates for every measure in the clinical realm for ethnicity group so each provider may evaluate its strategies internally to identify and address some disparities seen in the gaps.</li> <ul> <li>Additional items:</li> <li>Health Plans are encouraged to work closely with County Public Health Officers to make requests for county level data.</li> <li>There was a two-week extension granted for Partnership to submit final NCQA HEDIS data for 2023 to account for the impact of the Change</li> </ul> </ul>			
I.C.2. Status Update, Regional Medical	<ul> <li>Healthcare cyber-attack.</li> <li>Partnership's Regional Medical Director for the Southeast Counties presented a brief update on activities.</li> <li>Area Updates <ul> <li>Staffing is relatively stable across Napa, Solano, and Yolo Counties.</li> <li>A Southeast Regional Quality meeting, taking place quarterly, will be held in May where all of the practices in the Southeast region are invited to attend in-person or virtually. The meeting will focus on: <ul> <li>Highlighting different quality measures</li> <li>Sharing best practices for improving quality scores</li> <li>Solano County Family Health Services has shown some of the largest gaps in quality scores, and Partnership will be working closely with those who care for patients to build quality systems and closing gaps for health disparities, especially those for pediatrics to improve well-child-visit rates.</li> </ul> </li> </ul></li></ul>			
	<ul> <li>Partnership's Regional Medical Director for Southwest Counties presented a brief update on activities.</li> <li>Area Updates <ul> <li>Partnership's Director of Health Equity visited the Southwest region to see efforts in those areas.</li> <li><u>COTS Shelter and Housing Programs</u> in Petaluma, CA provides permanent, supportive housing and are pleased with CalAIM measures to assist. They have roughly 24 tiny houses on property.</li> <li>Marin City Health and Wellness is beginning to thrive and has hired a new CEO, with whom Partnership leadership met.</li> <li>Santa Rosa Community Health is doing great things with health equity.</li> <li>West County Health Centers, serving Sonoma County, is led by CEO, Dr. Jason Cunningham, mapped out social, economic, health, and education movements within its community to evaluate how they interact and where the critical pressure points are.</li> <li>Adventist Clearlake met with Partnership leadership and had gainful discussion.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			

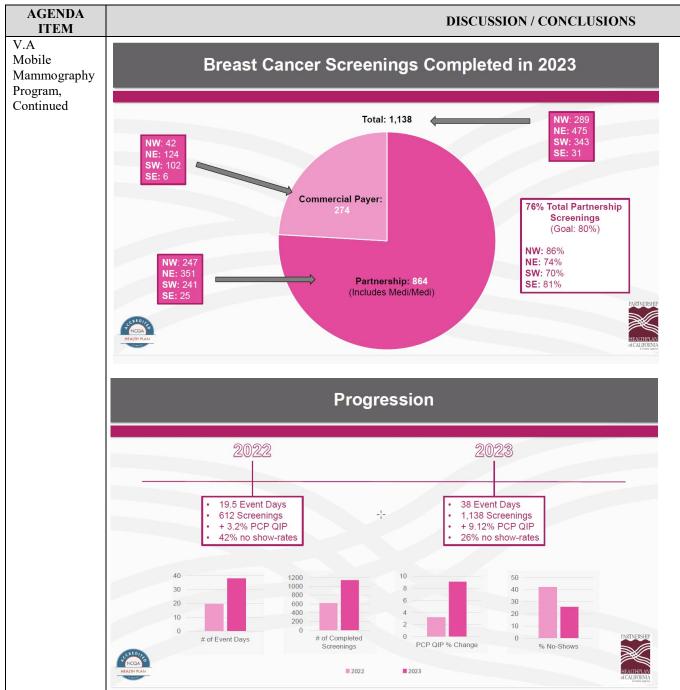
AGENDA ITEM					
I.C.2. Status Update,	Partnership's Regional Medical Director for Southwest Counties presented a brief update on activities, continued.				
Regional Medical, Continued	<ul> <li>Credentialing in the Expansion Areas</li> <li>Partnership's Peer Review Committee has done a tremendous amount of work evaluating many of the new providers.</li> <li>Additional physicians attending the Credentialing Committee meeting would be beneficial.</li> <li>Physical therapy (PT) shortages continue to be an issue in Sonoma County.</li> <li>President of Adventist Health Clear Lake announced resignation.</li> <li>Continued issues in specialty access emphasize the use and need for consults in order to reduce number of necessary face-to-face visits. Consults eliminate about 70% of the cases that would usually require a face-to-face visit with a specialist.</li> </ul>				
	Partnership's Regional Medical Director for the Northwest Counties presented a brief update on activities.				
I.C.3. Status Update, Regional Medical	<ul> <li>Area Updates <ul> <li>In Crescent City, Sutter Coast Hospital has been working on a hospice program and is waiting to hear back about licensure.</li> <li>Stallant Health, also in Crescent City, is breaking ground on a new building in June which will offer dental services and focus on wound care.</li> <li>K'ima:w Medical Center is hiring a new pediatrician, Dr. Shannon Shea, who will start in June. Dr. Smith will be retiring in June.</li> <li>Some of the Open Door clinics are opening up to members, but Fortuna and Ferndale are opening up to limited a zip code area.</li> <li>Arcata Community Health Center just opened a brand-new building.</li> <li>Optometry services have been an issue in Humboldt County. Redwood Rural will be offering optometry services, and Southern Humboldt Clinic has a mobile van for traveling to sites and performing screenings and exams.</li> <li>In Redding, Pulmedica was purchased by Jiva Health. Pulmedica is a sleep medicine clinic, but there are rumors of adding additional specialty services to that site as well.</li> <li>Hill Country Health and Wellness buildings: Shasta Community Health purchasing buildings and is renting hem back. They are in the process of repairing one building.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
I.C.4. Status Update, Regional Medical	<ul> <li>Partnership's Regional Medical Director for the Eastern Counties presented a brief update on activities.</li> <li>Medical Education <ul> <li>The Butte-Glen Medical Society and Healthy Rural California hosted a dinner with Dr. Servis of UC Davis and had discussions about what a potential campus in the Chico area may look like and how it would expand medical education.</li> <li>Some scholarships have been offered to local, high school students and a college student at Chico State, encouraging them to pursue a career in medicine and return to their local communities to serve.</li> <li>Healthy Rural California will be welcoming its psychiatry residents in early June.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Area Updates <ul> <li>In Sierra County, there are discussions taking place about how emergency response providers may be involved in home-health and wound care.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
	<ul> <li>There are large Emergency Medical Services (EMS) discussions taking place with various providers, such as NorCal EMS, regarding issues with patient transfers and movement of patients who may be too sick for gurney transport but not in need of ambulance services.</li> <li>In discussions with Northern Valley Gastroenterology to serve members in the Sutter and Yuba areas.</li> <li>Continuing to meet with obstetrical and pre-natal providers to address gaps in care within the Nevada City and Grass Valley areas until a resolution can be reached with Dignity Health.</li> <li>Enloe Health will be ending its Behavioral Health services in August 2024.</li> <li>Partnership's Auburn office is open and staff members have been hired.</li> </ul>				

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS
I.C.4. Status	Questions/Comments
Update, Regional Medical,	Dr. Chester Austin asked what the in-patient options for behavioral health are once Enloe suspends its program.
Continued	Partnership's Regional Medical Director for the Eastern Counties answered there are three other facilities locally, but should those fill up, it will be an issue for which Partnership will have to look in other areas for care, potentially in the Sacramento and Redding areas.
II.A. Committee	John McDermott, a Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant (NP-PAC) at FirstCare in Oroville, CA provided an overview of his path to medicine.
Member Highlight, John McDermott, FNP-PAC, FirstCare,	NP/PA McDermott's love of medicine started early when he watched the 70s TV show <i>Emergency</i> . His best friend's mother was a nursing educator at the community hospital in Chico, CA. As adolescents, he and his best friend volunteered to run samples to the lab. In high school, Dr. Joe Matthews, asked John to follow him for a day since he showed an interest in medicine. Dr. Joe Matthews is a surgeon and continues to be a medical mentor who shared openly the pros and cons of working in medicine.
Oroville, CA	After high school, John enlisted in the United States Army, where he was soon sent overseas during the Gulf War followed by two years in Germany. After his military service, he pursued a career as a nurse at the advice of his friend's mother. He worked at a medical center in Chico on the oncology floor where he felt privileged to help people through some of the most difficult times in their life and experience death in a way many others do not outside of their own families. He completed nursing school in 1998 and began working at Enloe. Soon after, he desired to learn to speak Spanish and work at a rural health clinic. He worked as a nurse for a PA in Hamilton City, Jesse Corpus. Mr. Corpus encouraged John to return to school to become a PA. John graduated from the Nurse Practitioner program at UC Davis and felt passionately about working in rural health, especially farm workers. In 2021, John completed the UC Davis Train the Trainer Primary Care Psychiatry fellowship in 2022.
	His love of the community inspired him to volunteer as a fire fighter, which he has done for over 20 years. John provided some medical training to the fire department and served as a mentor. He has been the Assistant Fire Chief for the last seven years. John was elected to the Glen County Fire Chiefs Association five years ago and was very involved in repairing broken systems and serving the community. Volunteer fire fighting can present challenges to caring for patients when a call comes in. Because of several clinic closures, FirstCare has experienced explosive growth in caring for patients, where John spends most of his time. John is also involved with the Glen County Board of Supervisors and advises them on trends he sees in caring for community, one of which is caring for senior citizens. He also works with committees that address caring for aging members and loneliness. A senior fair will be held for the first time in June. John also assists in Orland as part of the County Alliance for Prevention of Opioid Use Task Force.
	He has been married to his wife, Bethany, a high-school Spanish teacher, for 24 years. They have a son and a daughter, Aries (15) and Marie (10). He enjoys spending quality time with his family and vacations in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

AGENDA ITEM	MOTIONS FOR APPROVAL	RECOMMENDATIONS / ACTION	DATE RESOLVED
III.A. Approval of Minutes	April 2024 PAC minutes were presented for approval.	MOTION: Nurse Sprague moved to approve Agenda III.A as presented, seconded by, seconded by Dr. Brennan. ACTION SUMMARY: [12] yes, [0] no, [0] abstentions. Motion carried.	05/08/24
III.B.1 III.B.2 III.B.3 III.B.5	Consent Calendar Review Quality / Utilization Advisory Committee (QUAC) Activities Report with Attachments – April 2024 Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines for Action - Policy Summary April 2024 Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee, Meeting Minutes, April 4, 2024 Credentials Committee Meeting – March 13, 2024	MOTION: Nurse Sprague moved to approve Agenda III.B.1, III.B.2, III.B.3 and III.B.5, as presented, seconded by Dr. Herman. ACTION SUMMARY: [12] yes, [0] no, [0] abstentions. Motion carried.	05/08/24

DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS
Mobile Mammography Program was presented
Mobile mammography started off as a pilot in June of 2022 as a strategy to increase breast cancer screening rates across provider organizations that were falling below the 50th percentile benchmark. Because of the success, in late April of 2023, the mobile mammography program officially launched with the first event days in July. Mobile mammography events offer an alternative for women ages 50 to 74 who live in rural areas and provides opportunities for women who have never received a mammogram before to be screened.
Partnership has contracted with Alinea Medical Imaging, and they are the sole provider of mobile mammography services in Northern California, including our new expansion counties. Screenings are conducted indoors using a portable unit and a self-contained coach. They each have their own space requirements. The unit used depends on the provider site and what they are able to accommodate. Sponsorship consideration is based on meeting the listed eligibility requirements, and these are provider locations that are below the 50th percentile benchmark that have a lack of access to nearby imaging centers. Partnership covers the cost of Alinea's event inclusive of mileage and traveling.
<ul> <li>Criteria</li> <li>30 patient minimum requirement. <ul> <li>Target of 80% must be Partnership members</li> </ul> </li> <li>Providers are responsible for conducting all outreach</li> <li>Preventative screenings only</li> </ul>
Each event dates requires coordination between the Project Management team and Alinea. Partnership's Population Health Department provides support for the event itself and passes out Partnership-branded items and benefit information. They also distribute a survey after they've completed their screening, which gives us insight on the event day on the process and the opportunity to further streamline and make improvements.
<ul> <li>Highlights</li> <li>Long Valley Health Center hosted the first event</li> <li>Winter Health Care Center has a large unhoused population and offered a "spa-day" to every member who was screened.</li> </ul>





A total of 1,138 screenings were conducted in 2023. There were fewer screenings in the Southeast region because there were fewer event days completed, and this region had reached the benchmark in October. Partnership focused our event planning more in the Northern regions.

The program has grown at a very rapid rate with the number of event days increasing.

No-show rates improved by increasing engagement and finding solutions to overcome the list of barriers.

Some sites have large Spanish-speaking populations. Resources are provided in Spanish to engage Spanish speaking patients as well as in person support. Spanish-speaking Alinea technicians and Spanish-speaking Population Health healthy living coaches are available at events to support.

Additionally, Partnership has leveraged the Transportation Department to overcome accessibility in rural areas.

Provider feedback has been mostly very positive, but continuous improvements are being made.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS						
V.A Mobile Mammography Program, Continued	Next Steps	Mobile mammography is becoming a strategic methodology in rural areas, and it has become a key program of Partnership, which looks forward to continuing the growth and the success of the					
	<ul> <li>Plans for 2024:</li> <li>Continue outreach to Northern and Southern Region eligible provider organizations</li> </ul>	program.					
	Include Eastern Region counties						
	<ul> <li>Target focus on</li> <li>Tribal Health Centers</li> <li>Counties impacted by loss of Dignity imaging services</li> <li>Enhanced Provider Engagement (EPE)</li> <li>Equity Practice Transformation (EPT)</li> </ul>						
	Questions/Comments						
	What is the minimum number of mammograms that have to be performed by Alinea that day in order for Alinea charges \$150 for any no shows that result in less than the 25 screenings. Alinea can scree Partnership encourages providers to help schedule and create waitlists.						
	Partnership's Medical Director for Quality suggested adding adult vaccination clinics at the same events,	potentially offering pediatric vaccinations as well.					

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS
V.B 2024 Inequity	Partnership's Director of Health Equity present the 2024 Health Inequity Analysis
2024 Inequity Analysis	Methodology – Two sets of Data for 2022 and 2023
	2022 - Health Equity Accreditation (HEA)Measures and Managed Care Accountability Sets (MCAS) Measures
	<ul> <li>Reviewed statistical findings for HEA (n=397)/MCAS (n=1579) measures and samples</li> </ul>
	Calculated % non-weighted average difference from Minimum Performance Level (MPL)
	Calculated Number of Regions below MPL and 25
	Stratified disparities per strong, moderate, weak taxonomy
	2023 – Quality Improvement Program Measures
	2023 PCP QIP Granular Data
	Geographic Drivers and Community Profile Analysis
	Less Effect of COVID than in 2022
	Performance of White ethnicity was benchmark
	One of the things that recognized when looking at the data, is that there are certain disparities that show a key difference between two groups, identifying a disparity. However, if across the board, all race groups are not performing well, it alludes to what is likely more of a quality issue versus a health equity issue.
	Quality Concerns
	Disparities are identified in many populations. However, there were the largest number of disparities for American Indian and Alaska Native. When evaluating,

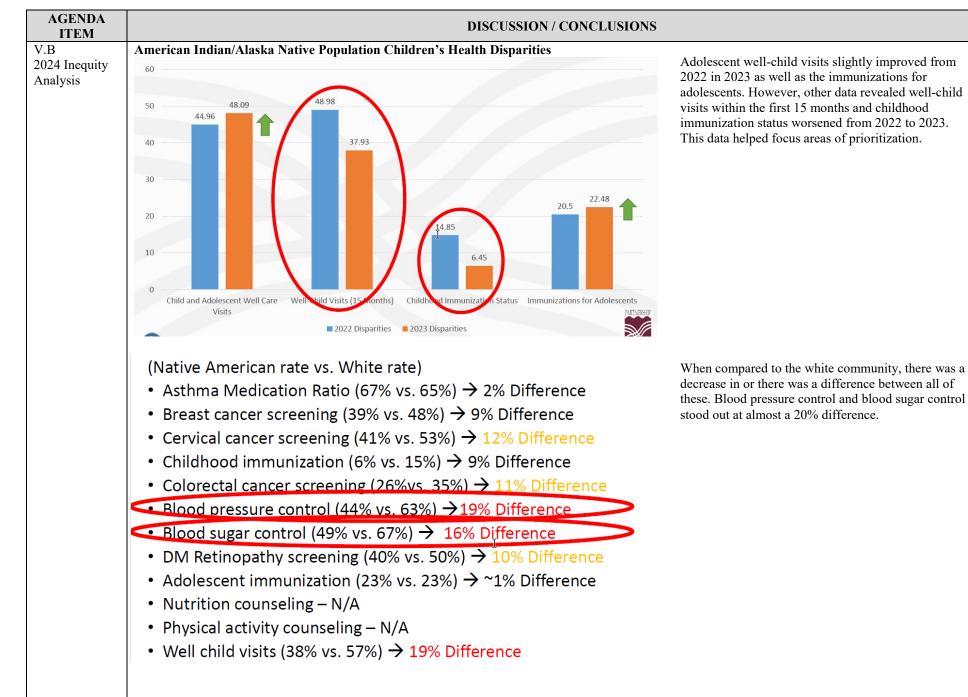
Disparities are identified in many populations. However, there were the largest number of disparities for American Indian and Alaska Native. When evaluating, consideration was given to how many members of Tribal Communities Partnership where are they located and if any interventions were needed in targeted areas or certain federally recognized tribes.

Blood pressure control worsened from 2022 to 2023 when we looked at the data for American Indian and Alaskan Natives, which showed not only was there a disparity in 2022, but that disparity worsened in 2023 and may need to be highlighted and addressed within the tribal communities.

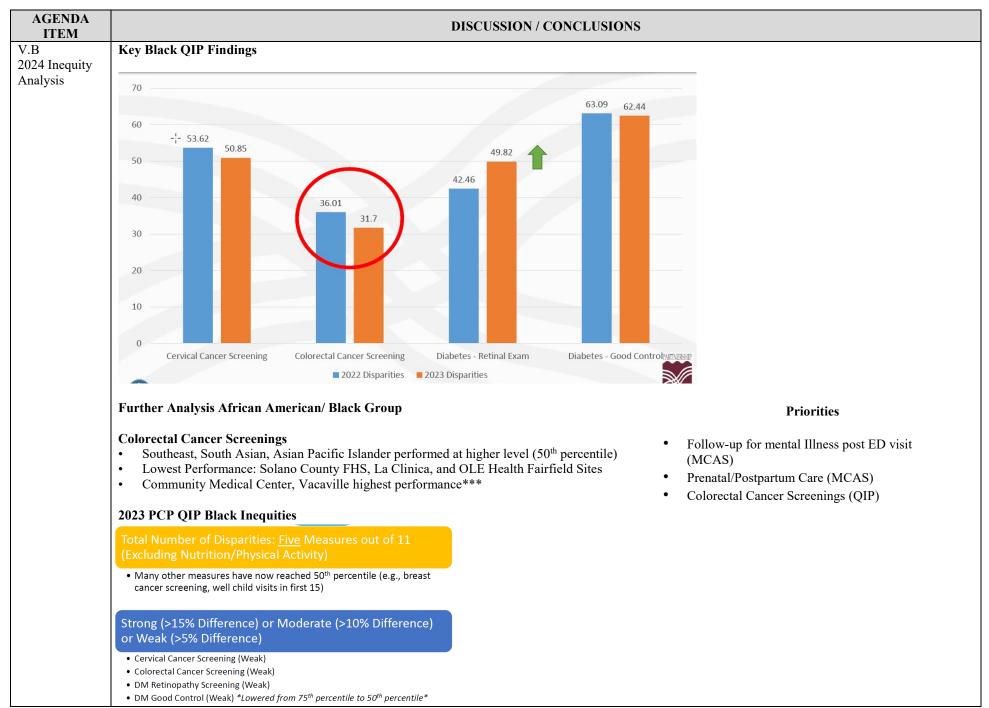
## American Indian/Alaska Native Population: HEA/MCAS

## American Indian/Alaska Native Population: QIP





AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS						
V.B 2024 Inequity Analysis	Further Analysis for American Indian/Alaska Native Population         Blood Pressure (Key Priorities using MCAS and QIP measures)         • Sonoma County Indian Health Project highest performance**         Childhood immunization (CIS-10) (Verylow at all PCPs: average just 6.5%! with average of 1 member receiving immunization at sites)         Diabetes HbA1c Good Control (QIP Measures)         • Sonoma County Indian Health Project highest performance**						
	African An HEDIS Measure	nerican/ Black Group H	EA/MCAS MCAS Sample Findings	Regions below 25 <sup>th</sup> Performance Level	Absolute Average Percentage below MPL across regions	Category of Disparity	•Overall Black Members 32,510 (3.5% of total Partnership population) •Primarily in Southern Region
	Timeliness of Prenatal Care		Performed significantly worse in 1 region (NW) when compared to white group	1	25.1%	Strong	Solano, Butte, Yolo, Sonoma, and Marin have highest numbers Vallejo and Fairfield are prominent cities •Key Community Activities Community Events (e.g Juneteenth) are common for
	Timeliness of Postpartum Care	No significant difference with white group	No significant difference with white group	2	9%	Strong	gatherings
	Follow-up for mental health within 30 days of ER		No significant difference with white group	3	23.19%	Strong	



AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS
V.B	Summary of the 2023 Primary Care Physician Quality Improvement Program Data
2024 Inequity Analysis	<ul> <li>The largest number of inequities are in the Native American ethnicity group (10/11)         <ul> <li>Key concern: Controlled Blood Pressure</li> </ul> </li> <li>African American population has 5/11 measures with inequities.         <ul> <li>Key Concern: Prenatal/Postpartum Care and follow up for mental illness</li> </ul> </li> <li>Pacific Islander, SE Asian, Eastern Asian all show one inequity.</li> <li>No inequities were identified in the Hispanic, South Asian groups.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Summary: No significant improvement in inequities from 2022 to 2023.</li> </ul>
	Questions/Comments
	One attendee pointed out the standards for Tribal Health Centers is different, and they will have to be incentive to perform at a higher level than what is legally required of them.
	Dr. Herman if any consideration to understaffing was given when calculating the scores.
	Partnership's Director of Health Equity answered that it is worth investigating and implementing in the future.
	Dr. Thompson mentioned leveraging enhanced provider engagement and focusing and supporting Tribal Health colleagues in using more tools such as the Health Equity and Practice Transformation grants.
	An attendee asked how to determine if communities are really suffering or not.
	It is controversial, and there hasn't been a gold standard, and it's not likely there is going to be an accepted gold standard. For accreditation, they as that documentation be provided to support reasoning. The consultant working with Partnership is pleased with the methodology.
VI. Adjournment	
PAC adjourned at 9:02 a.m.	Next PAC on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 7:30 a.m. Brown Act flexibilities have ended.

For Signature Only

The foregoing minutes were APPROVED AS PRESENTED on

06/12/2024

Date

Steve Gwiazdowski, M.D., Committee Chairperson

The foregoing minutes were APPROVED WITH MODIFICATION on \_

Steve Gwiazdowski, M.D..., Committee Chairperson

Date