Practical Strategies for NMDOH Screening and Resource Delivery in Complex Populations



Forest Melton Health Equity Program Manager, Children's Health

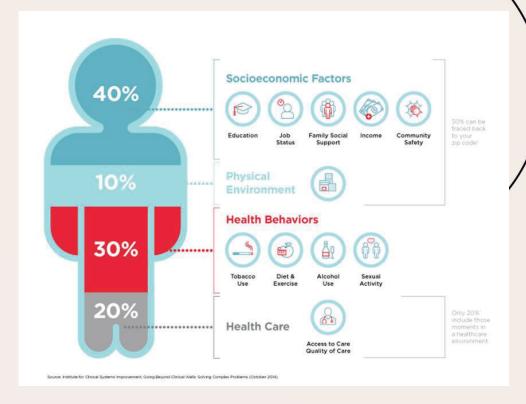


Practical Strategies for SDOH Screening and Resource Delivery in Complex Populations (Children's Health System)

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Social Determinants of Health

- Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age
- These conditions are shaped by economics, social, and political policies
- They impact health outcomes much more than biological factors
- Key to addressing health disparities





Children's Health System of Texas



Children's Health (2023)

- 2 Hospital Campuses (Dallas and Plano)
- 968,453 Total Patient Visits
- 311,207 Unique Patients Seen

Community Health Needs Assessment (2022)

- 10,400 children are homeless in CHNA Community
- Over 212,000 children lack access to enough food



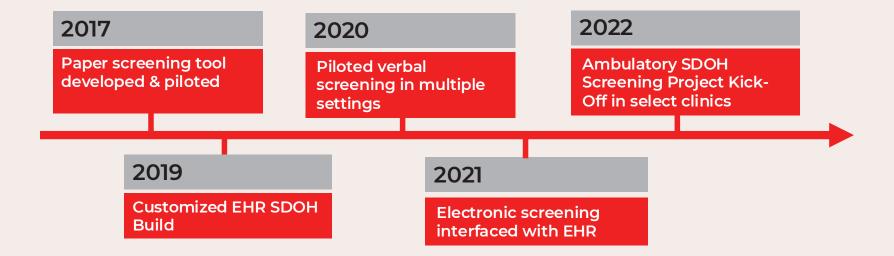
SDOH Key Decisions & Considerations

- ✓ Which clinics to start in
- ✓ Which screening tool to use
- ✓ Method of screening
- ✓ Frequency of screening
- ✓ What community resources will be used
- ✓ Workflow
- ✓ People resources
- ✓ Implementation strategy
- √ How will training occur





SDOH Timeline





Foster Care Clinic

Foster care youth are more likely to experience economic insecurity, as well as many other adverse childhood experiences including abuse, neglect, domestic violence, and parental substance use.¹





1. Ahrens KR, Garrison MM, Courtney ME. Health outcomes in young adults from foster care and economically diverse backgrounds. Pediatrics. 2014 Dec;134(6):1067-74. doi: 10.1542/peds.2014-1150. Epub 2014 Nov 3. PMID: 25367543; PMCID: PMC4243069.



SDOH Screening at Children's Health

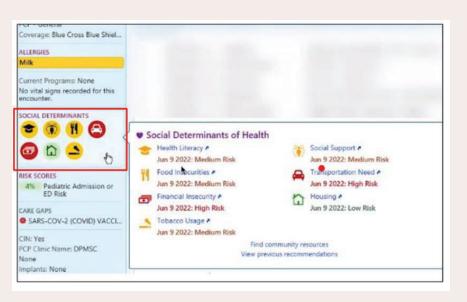
We screen for 7 SDOH domains:

- 1. Financial Insecurity
- 2. Food Insecurity
- 3. Health Literacy
- 4. Housing Quality & Insecurity
- 5. Social Support
- 6. Tobacco Use
- 7. Transportation Insecurity

	·	YES / NO
	Do you ever need help to read health information or fill out medical forms?	Yes No Sometimes
2	2. Do you have someone you can call when you need help with your child?	Yes No Sometimes
ě	In the past 12 months, we worried whether our food would run out before we got money to buy more.	Never true Sometimes true Often true
ě	In the past 12 months, the food we bought just didn't last, and we didn't have money to get more.	Never true Sometimes true Often true
=	5. In the past 12 months, has your child missed health care appointments because you didn't have a way to get there?	Yes No Sometimes
=	In the past 12 months, did your child go without medicine because you didn't have a way to pick it up?	Yes No Sometimes
•	7. In the past 12 months, has your utility company shut off your service for not paying your bills? (electricity, gas, water, phone, etc.)	Yes No Sometimes
(_A)	8. Do you have internet access at home - such as broadband, or Wi-Fi?	Yes No Sometimes
*	9. Are you worried that in the next 2 months you may not have stable housing?	Yes No Sometimes
*	Do you have problems in the place where you live, like mice, bugs, mold, water leaks or heating / cooling that doesn't work?	Yes No Sometimes
3	11. Is your child often around someone who smokes?	Yes No Sometimes
3	12. Does your child smoke?	Yes No





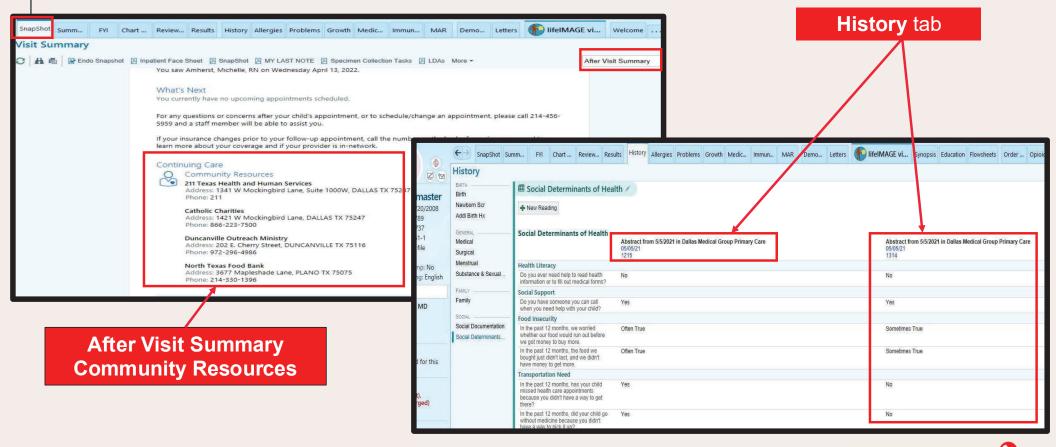






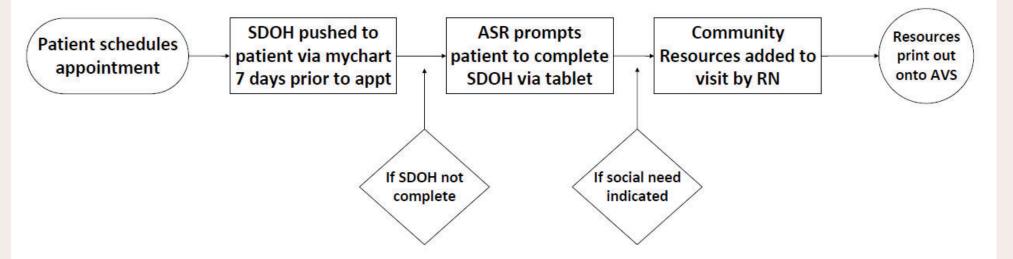


SDOH Screening at Children's Health





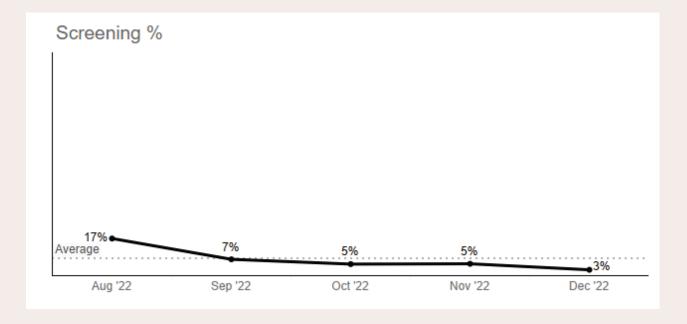
SDOH Workflow





Foster Care

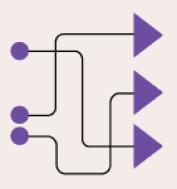
In December 2022, Plano Foster Care Clinic screened only 3% of their patients for social needs. The addition of SDOH screening into clinic workflow was not adopted intuitively.







SDOH Screening Challenges



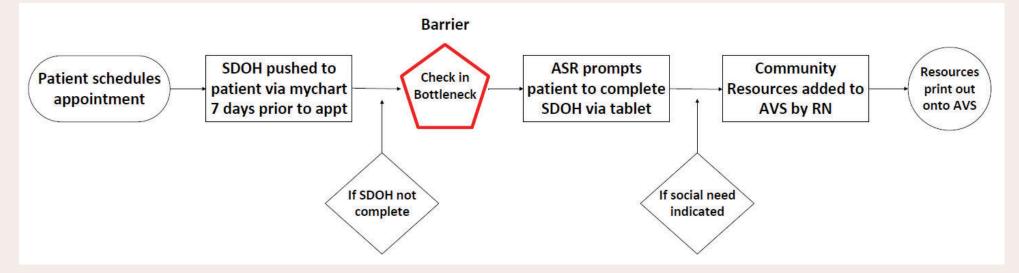






SDOH Screening Challenges: Workflow

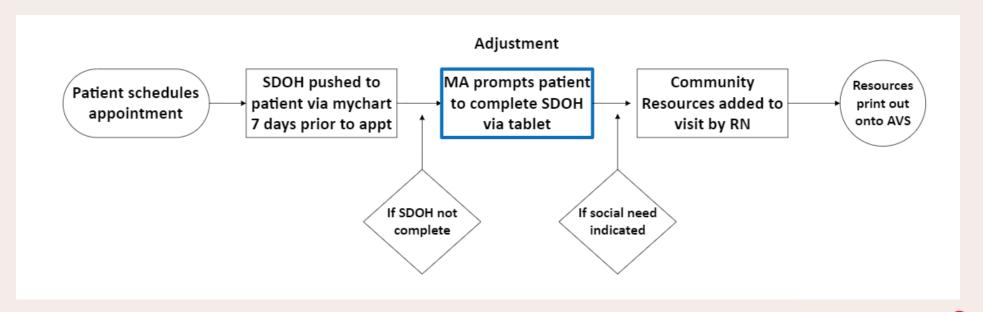
The clinic check-in workflow frequently experienced bottlenecks which disrupted SDOH screening.





SDOH Screening Challenges: Workflow

Staff determined that the Medical Assistants had 8 – 10 minutes of downtime with caregivers while completing patient vitals.





SDOH Screening Challenges

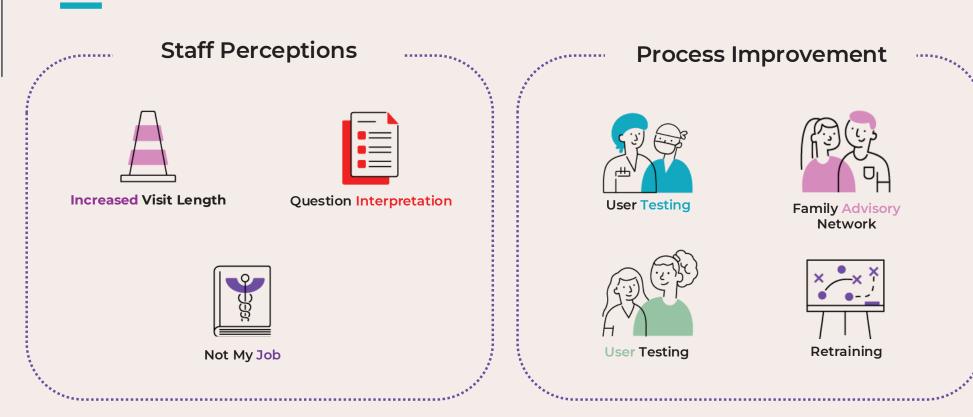


Staff Perceptions & Fears





SDOH Screening Challenges: Staff Perceptions & Fears





Retraining & Realignment



Culture Shift



Dashboard Build



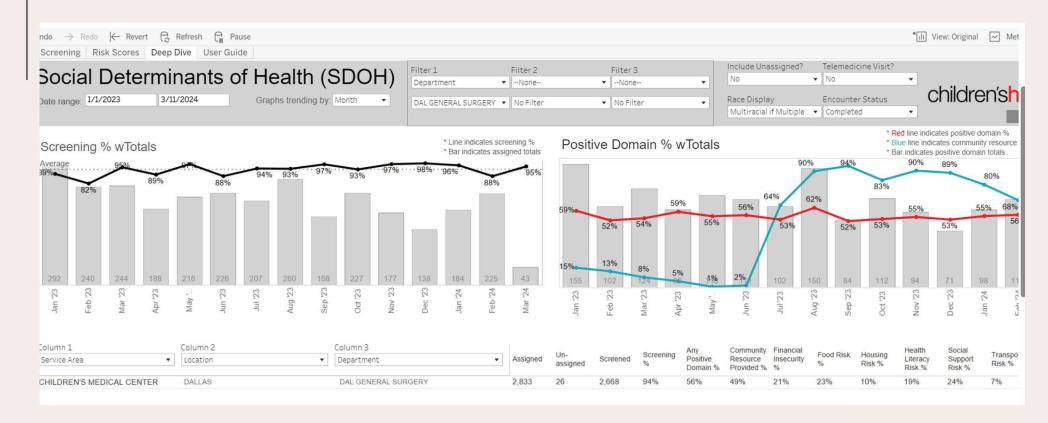
Clinic & Staff Goals



SDOH Dashboard



SDOH Dashboard





SDOH Implementation Intervention

Gaps were identified and data collected Q1 of 2023, with the following process improvement changes implemented Q2 of 2023.



Culture Shift



Workflow Change from ASR to MA



Reeducation



Clinic Goal Setting

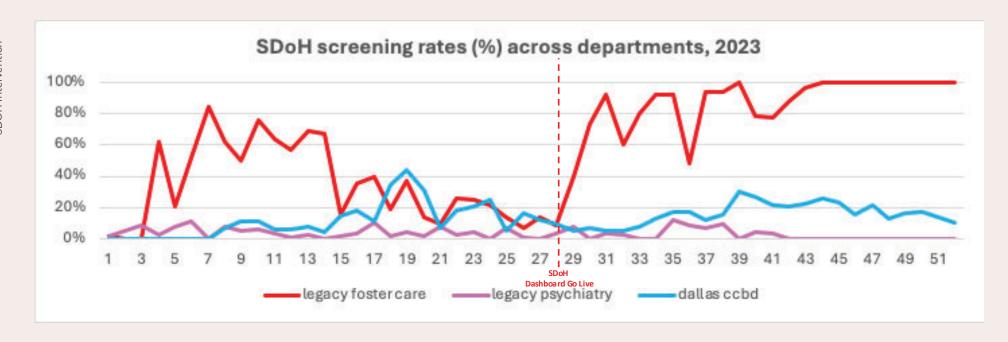


Dashboard Build for Tracking





SDOH Implementation Intervention





Community Resources

Ultimately, our goal is to ensure that patients receive necessary resources. This prompted us to examine resource delivery.



Are patients getting resources?

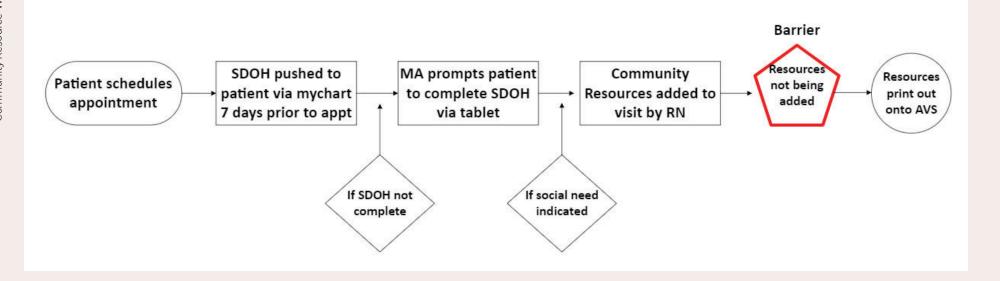


In December 2022, **0%** of families were provided community resources via EPIC workflow



Workflow

To mitigate the lack of additional resources provided to patients for their social needs, we introduced an automated system to enhance support.





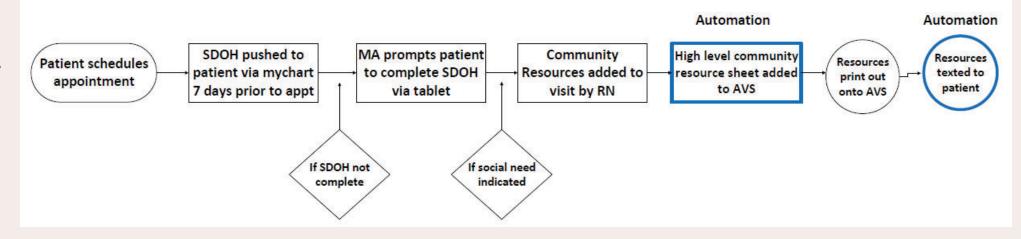
Community Resource Sheet





Workflow

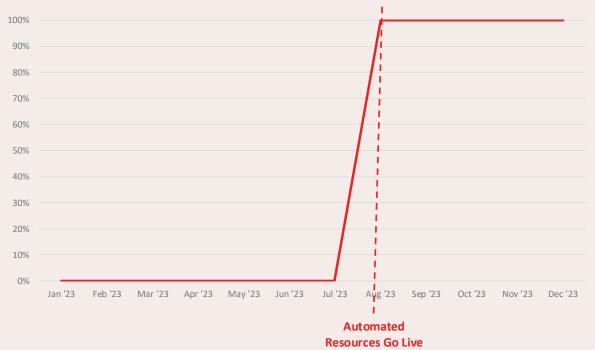
A high-level community resource sheet was integrated into the after-visit summary (AVS) and also sent to patients via text message.





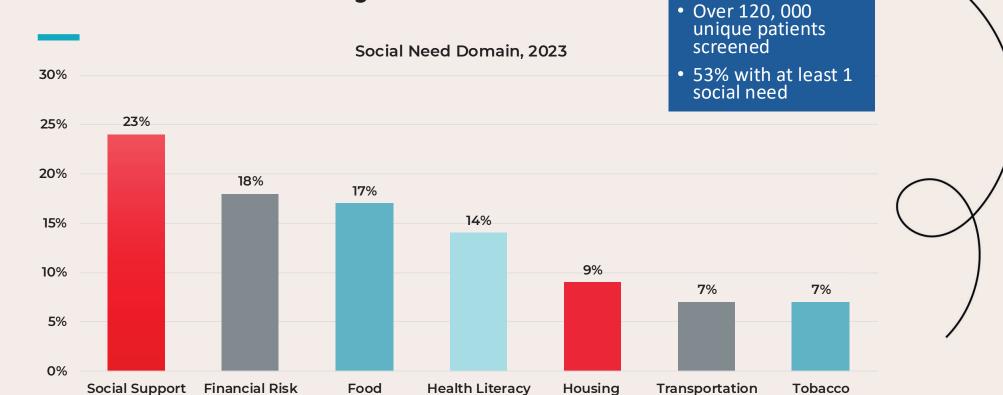
Automated Community Resources







Our Patient Family Social Needs





SDOH Implementation Keys to Success



Rally Leadership Support

Executive Leaders
Senior Leaders
Managers
Engage Champions!



Determine Key Stakeholders

Care Managers
Social Workers
Nursing
Clinical Area Leaders
Epic Team
IS Team
Clinicians

Ensure Project
Management Support

Stepwise approach

Lots of communication, education,
& engagement

Request support early

Don't be afraid to pivot



SDOH Rollout Continued

Ambulatory

July 2022

In Patient

February 2024

Emergency Department

September 2024



Next Steps





Food Insecurity Pilot



Social Support Pilot



Increase ED Screening %



Language Access Pilot





