



PARTNERING FOR INNOVATION



2024 Annual Report



A Message from Value Network

Throughout 2024, the Value Network team continued to focus on our mission to *improve healthcare outcomes in the WNY community*. We collaborate with our diverse, integrated network to advance health equity, increase innovation, and implement transformational strategies.

We continue to be at the forefront of many local initiatives such as partnering with the Erie County Department of Mental Health on Crisis Response Planning, working on social care transformation with two State-selected Social Care Networks (SCNs) in both the Western New York and the Finger Lakes regions, and continuing to forge ahead with innovative training programs, grants, and value-based payment (VBP) opportunities.

As we progress through 2025, we are excited to embark on a new strategic planning process that will focus on better serving our Network and the WNY community.

I am always eager to hear from you, our Partners, with suggestions and feedback on how to strengthen our Network and work towards accomplishing our mission, improve health in the WNY Community.

Sincerely,



Andrea J. Wanat
Chief Executive Officer
Value Network



Value Network Team

Jeff Bowen
Director of Data Analytics and
Infrastructure

Chelsea DelGiorno
SDoH Project Coordinator

LaTonya Diggs
Director of Clinical/
Quality Transformation

Megan Dumpleton
Director of Network Relations
and Special Projects

Matthew Fioravanti
Data Engineer

Erica Kreutzer
Population Health Project Director

Kaitlin Avery
Project Coordinator

Words from our Board President

On behalf of the Value Network’s Board of Directors, I am pleased to share the accomplishments of the Network over the past year.

Several areas of accomplishment are highlighted in this report including the Value Network’s regional reach and participation in many county and state-wide projects, incentive-based contracting with payers, and other innovative strategies.

Value Network strives to bring “value” to our Partners and the healthcare system in many ways, including free staff training, collaborative grants, value-based contracting opportunities, and support with clinical integration, quality improvement, and data analytics.

We hope you enjoy this issue and continue to work alongside us to advance the health of the WNY community.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Woike-Ganga
Board President
President/CEO of BestSelf
Behavioral Health



Erin DiGirolamo
Board Vice Chair
CEO of Horizon
Corporations



Elizabeth Mauro
Board Secretary
CEO of Endeavor
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Executive Director/
Vice President,
Living Opportunities
of DePaul

Cindy Voelker
President and CEO,
Spectrum Health &
Human Services

Elizabeth Woike-Ganga
President/CEO,
BestSelf Behavioral Health

LEADING THE WAY WITH INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Value Network contracts with managed care organizations (MCOs) in our region to decrease cost-of-care and increase positive health outcomes for individuals served in our Network.



First downstream agreement in WNY between a primary care IPA and behavioral health IPA

- Focused on improving HEDIS quality metrics
- Worked to improve gaps in care for physical health preventative screenings



Social Determinants of Health Performance Incentive Program (SDOHPIP)

- The SDOHPIP focuses on Wellpoint's (Highmark BCBS) Medicaid members
- Value Network is the first and only behavioral health IPA to participate in the SDOHPIP nationally
- This program incentivizes our Partners to screen, refer, and code for health-related social needs



Continued success with the first behavioral health VBP contract in New York State

- Established in 2020
- This collaboration has focused on improving specified metrics and reducing emergency department visits and inpatient stays
- VN Partners also work to provide additional support for high-risk members and in-turn, reduce their cost of care

CONTRACT HIGHLIGHTS

6 Value Based Payment (VBP) Contracts

- Value Network continues working on, and securing new VBP contracts through strategic and innovative approaches to alternative payment methodologies for behavioral health.

4 Managed Care Organization (MCO) Partners

- Value Network outperformed MCO rates in 90% of VBP contracted measures across managed care contracts

\$440K

Earned from meeting quality metrics and closing gaps in care

- Value Network's performance on our 19 contracted metrics with various local MCOs exceeded the NYS metric averages for overall performance in 15 out of 19 contracted VBP metrics.

REGIONAL COLLABORATION AND EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS

Supporting our Partners with Quality Improvement (QI)

VN received funding from the Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation for two years to support Value Network and our Partners with quality improvement initiatives. This work includes trainings, support with quality metrics, and personalized quality improvement plans.

High Quality Trainings

With funding from the Erie County Department of Mental Health, VN offered a series of 10 high-quality trainings led by distinguished speakers from local universities and corporations. The training sessions focused on leadership, communication, and clinical strategies for best outcomes.

State-Level Partnerships

Value Network continues to advocate for our Network through strategic partnerships such as a statewide Behavioral Healthcare Collaborative (BHCC) IPA Advocacy Workgroup. These efforts support our shared missions by focusing on data analytics, contracting, and involvement in statewide initiatives.

New York Health Equity Reform (NYHER) Participation

Value Network is supporting two local Social Care Networks (SCN), WNY Integrated Care Collaborative (WNYICC) and Forward Leading IPA (FLIPA). Through this work, we are assisting our WNY Partners in their path to participation in the NYHER and training FLIPA partners on the SCN IT platform (findhelp).

Erie County Crisis Intervention Management Tool

VN's Director of Clinical/QI Transformation collaborated with the Erie County Department of Mental Health and members of the behavioral health community on a coordinated mental health crisis response effort. This group has developed a crisis response tool and a community-wide training in an effort to educate on appropriate levels of care, and to provide a local resource for emergency department diversion.

State Opioid Response Regional Network

As we enter into year five as the Regional Network lead for the State Opioid Response (SOR) grant through OASAS, Value Network continues to build strategic networking and partnership opportunities. These partnerships enhance the work of the grant and increase service collaboration across the continuum of care from prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction.

Value Network Partner Breakfast

In April 2024, Value Network invited all of our 60-plus Partners to attend a networking breakfast. Our members mingled with other VN Partners while promoting their programs and services in order to increase collaboration across our Network.



We Are Fortunate to Have a Diverse Set of Partners

Together, we are leaders in the behavioral healthcare field and beyond. As a Network, our reach is vast and serves clients along the full continuum of care.

2024 Network Partners



2024 Affiliate Partners

Belmont Housing	Envision Wellness WNY	Monroe Plan Medical Care	Refugee & Immigrant Self-Empowerment
Buffalo Prenatal-Perinatal Network, Inc.	Erie Niagara County AHEC Behavioral Health	Native American Community Services of Erie & Niagara Counties, Inc.	The Resource Center
Buffalo Psychiatric Center	Erie County Medical Center	New Directions Youth and Family Services	SNAPCAP IPA
CASA-Trinity	Every Person Influences Children (EPIC)	Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center	UB MD Physician Group
Catholic Charities of Buffalo	Great Lakes Integrated Network	Northpointe Council, Inc.	West Side Community Services
Catholic Medical Partners IPA	HEALTHeLINK RHIO	Person Centered Services	WNY Mobile Overdose Prevention Services
Cazenovia Recovery Systems, Inc.	Jewish Family Services of Western New York	PreventionFocus, Inc.	WNY United Against Drugs & Alcohol Abuse, Inc.
Children's Health Home of Update New York (CHHUNY) CIPA Western NY	Kaleida Health & Children's Psychiatry Clinic	Prevention Works	YMCA Buffalo Niagara
ComPEER	Margaret Stutzman Addiction Treatment Center	The Prevention Council of Erie County	
Crisis Services	Mental Health Advocates of WNY	The Primary Care IPA	
Directions in Independent Living			



Our Mission at Value Network is Simple

To improve healthcare outcomes in the WNY community through an integrated network that advances health equity, innovation, and transformational strategies.

Our Values

Value Network operates according to a number of key values. These values are foundational to everything that we do.

- Collaboration
- Community
- Communication
- Data driven
- Decisiveness
- Diversity
- Engaging for impact
- Hope and belief in recovery
- Improved outcomes
- Improved health
- Partnership
- Respect
- Vision