Title: Project ECHO

Office of Origin: Health and Sciences Center

Description: A collection of documents concerning Project ECHO, an “Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes.” This is a project out of the Health and Sciences Center that is “committed to addressing the needs of the most vulnerable populations by equipping communities with the right knowledge, at the right place, at the right time” (pg. 1). Included is two screenshots from the ECHO website, as well as two infographics hosted there.
Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is a movement to democratize knowledge and amplify local capacity to provide best practice care for underserved people all over the world. The ECHO model™ is committed to addressing the needs of the most vulnerable populations by equipping communities with the right knowledge, at the right place, at the right time.

Changing the World, Fast
Replicating the ECHO model across the U.S. dramatically increases the number of community partners participating in ECHO, enabling more people in rural and underserved communities to get the care they need.

• 135+ U.S. Partners
• 80+ Global Partners
• 31 Countries

GOAL touch the lives of 1 Billion by 2025

Building a Global Community
Dozens of teleECHO programs addressing common complex conditions take place every week—and their reach extends far beyond New Mexico. From Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston to the University of Hawaii.

Global interest is mounting. ECHO programs operate in North and South America, Europe, Australia, Africa and Asia.

Moving Knowledge Not People
Project ECHO transforms the way education and knowledge are delivered to reach more people in rural and underserved communities.

This low-cost, high-impact intervention is accomplished by linking inter-disciplinary specialist teams with multiple primary care clinicians through teleECHO™ programs. Experts mentor and share their expertise across a virtual network via case-based learning, enabling primary care clinicians to treat patients with complex conditions in their own communities.

People get the high-quality care they need, when they need it, close to home.

What is the ECHO Model?
1. Use Technology to leverage scarce resources
2. Share “best practices” to reduce disparities
3. Apply case-based learning to master complexity
4. Evaluate and monitor outcomes

For more information on Project ECHO visit echo.unm.edu
Launched in 2003, Project ECHO grew out of one doctor’s vision. Sanjeev Arora, M.D., a social innovator and liver disease specialist at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center in Albuquerque, was frustrated that he could serve only a fraction of the hepatitis C patients in the state. He wanted to serve as many patients with hepatitis C as possible, so he created a no cost, virtual mentoring platform and mentored community providers across New Mexico in how to treat the condition. The ECHO model is a telementoring, guided practice model where the participating clinician retains responsibility for managing the patient. A study published in the New England Journal of Medicine found that hepatitis C care provided by Project ECHO trained community providers resulted in outcomes equal to those provided by specialists at a university.

Benefits of Becoming a Partner in the ECHO Movement

• Better access for rural and underserved communities
• Reduced disparities
• Better quality and safety
• Rapid dissemination of best practices
• Promote consistency in care and practice
• Greater efficiency

Benefits of Participating in a TeleECHO Program

ECHO partners acquire new skills and competencies. They become part of a community of practice and learning, increasing their professional satisfaction while their feelings of professional isolation decrease.

Including:
• Hepatitis C
• HIV
• Substance Use Disorders
• Diabetes and Endocrinology
• Chronic Pain
• Tuberculosis
• Autism
• Palliative Care
• Crisis Intervention Training
• Assistive Technologies in Education

Project ECHO now addresses over 100 complex conditions

Funding Partners

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
Albuquerque Area Tribal Epidemiology Center
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Society of Addiction Medicine
Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation
BlueCross BlueShield, Molina, Presbyterian
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Defense Health Administration
Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
GE Foundation
Goradia Charitable Foundation
Health Resources Services Administration
Helmsley Charitable Trust
Indian Health Service
I-TECH
L.I.F.E.R Foundation
Merck Foundation
New Mexico Department of Corrections
New Mexico Department of Health
New Mexico State Legislature
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Help us build the ECHO Movement! Join Project ECHO now.

For more information on Project ECHO visit echo.unm.edu
In the U.S. and around the world, people are not getting the care they need, when they need it, for complex but treatable conditions.

**Moving Knowledge, Not Patients**

Through telementoring, ECHO builds capacity and creates access to high-quality specialty care serving local communities.

**Hub and spoke knowledge-sharing networks create a learning loop:**
- Community providers learn from specialists.
- Community providers learn from each other.
- Specialists learn from community providers as best practices emerge.

**Doing More for More Patients**

**PATIENT**
- Right Care
- Right Place
- Right Time

**PROVIDER**
- Acquire New Knowledge
- Treat More Patients
- Build Community of Practice

**COMMUNITY**
- Reduce Disparities
- Retain Providers
- Keep Patients Local

**SYSTEM**
- Increase Access
- Improve Quality
- Reduce Cost

**Changing the World, Fast**

**NEW MEXICO**
- Operating more than 40+ teleECHO programs
- More than 400 community clinic sites

**NATIONAL**
- Operating in more than 30 states and growing
- More than 100 complex conditions

**GLOBAL**
- Operating in 31 countries and growing
- Goal of touching 1 billion lives by 2025

Are you a part of ECHO? www.echo.unm.edu
Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is a collaborative model of medical education and care management that empowers clinicians everywhere to provide better care to more people, right where they live. The ECHO model does not actually "provide" care to patients. Instead, it dramatically increases access to specialty treatment in rural and underserved areas by providing frontline clinicians with the knowledge and support they need to manage patients with complex conditions such as: hepatitis C, HIV, tuberculosis, chronic pain, endocrinology, behavioral health disorders, and many others. It does this by engaging clinicians in a continuous learning system and partnering them with specialist mentors at an academic medical center or hub. As the ECHO model expands, it is helping to address some of the healthcare system's most intractable problems, including inadequate or disparities in access to care, rising costs, systemic inefficiencies, and unequal or slow diffusion of best practices. Across the United States and globally, policymakers are recognizing the potential of ECHO to exponentially expand workforce capacity to treat more patients sooner, using existing resources. At a time when the health care system is under mounting pressure to do more without spending more, this is critical.
Project ECHO® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is a movement to democratize knowledge and amplify the capacity to provide best practice care for underserved people all over the world. Project ECHO started as a way to meet local healthcare needs. Sanjeev Arora, M.D., a liver disease doctor in Albuquerque, was frustrated that thousands of New Mexicans with hepatitis C could not get the treatment they needed because there were no specialists where they lived. The clinic where he worked was one of only two in the entire state that treated hepatitis C. Dr. Arora was determined that all patients in need of treatment should get it. He created Project ECHO so that primary care clinicians could treat hepatitis C in their own communities. Launched in 2003, the ECHO model™ makes specialized medical knowledge accessible wherever it is needed to save and improve people’s lives. By putting local clinicians together with specialist teams at academic medical centers in weekly virtual clinics or teleECHO™ clinics, Project ECHO shares knowledge and expands treatment capacity. The result: better care for more people. Treatment for hepatitis C is now available at centers of excellence across New Mexico, and more than 3,000 doctors, nurses and community health workers provide treatment to more than 6,000 patients enrolled in Project ECHO’s comprehensive disease management programs for myriad conditions. A 2011 study published in the New England Journal of Medicine showed that the quality of hepatitis C care provided by Project ECHO-trained clinicians was equal to that of care provided by university-based specialists. What’s more, Project ECHO has expanded—across diseases and specialties, across urban and rural locales, across different types of delivery services, and even across the globe. Today, Project ECHO operates more than 220 hubs for more than 100 diseases and conditions in 31 countries.