

My Vote. My Our Health.

Efrain Talamantes, eftalamantes@altamed.org, AltaMed

Project Description: I addressed increasing civic engagement of our AltaMed physicians because of the disconnect between civic engagement, health equity and well-being. I believed in addressing this problem, we would be able to better engage our physicians, their clinic teams and our patients in civic engagement to improve overall health.

Outcome - Oriented Objective: To increase civic engagement among approximately 175 AltaMed physicians by increasing their civic engagement activities by Summer 2020.

Solution:

I proposed to provide all of our physicians (~175) in our federally qualified health center (FQHC) with California Medical Association (CMA) membership as a benefit to increase civic engagement among our physicians. We planned several co-hosted several events to discuss importance of physician advocacy and civic engagement.

My Vote. My Our Health.

Efrain Talamantes, eftalamantes@altamed.org, AltaMed

Results

- We kicked off partnership with California Medical Association (CMA) in December 2019 with Civic Engagement Event, over 100 physicians participated in kick-off event
- CMA leadership discussed importance of civic engagement at our all provider meeting
- We completed one successful Call to Action to ensure Proposition 56 revenue supports access for Medi-Cal patients

- There was a 21.8% increase in physicians contacting (in person, via email or letter) a public official to discuss any policy issue.
- AltaMed has one newly-acquired seat on the CMA Council of Legislation & Los Angeles County Medical Association Board of Directors

Next Steps

- We have renewed our CMA membership with plans for multi-year partnership to increase FQHC physician representation
- We will continue to work on civic engagement activities of our physicians
- We will track closely voting for 2020 presidential election among our community health center

Lessons Learned

- There may be lower civic engagement among FQHC physicians
- FQHC physicians are underrepresented in CMA
- Civic engagement of physicians allows for greater connections between individual, patient and community health

Voting among Physicians

