



# the catalyst project

The Catalyst Project, an initiative of Primary Care Progress and The Wright Center for Graduate Medical Education, is a program that cultivates student leaders while addressing community health needs in locations across the country.

Piloted in 2016 with four PCP teams, the Catalyst Project is expanding in 2017 to include up to eight teams working together in a national learning collaborative, with hands-on guidance and support to catalyze conversations about primary care innovation and transformation. Teams begin by analyzing their local Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to identify actionable primary care health needs in their local communities.

After identifying and engaging key stakeholders and inventorying community assets, resources, and gaps, teams select one CHNA area to focus on and begin convening local leaders for meaningful, action-oriented dialogues to advance innovations and identify metrics for success.

Example areas of focus could include behavioral health integration into primary care or enhanced access to oral health services. Through their participation, Catalyst team members play a leadership role in advancing the health of their local community, and establish a powerful foundation of leadership skills essential throughout their clinical careers.

## ABOUT PRIMARY CARE PROGRESS

Founded in 2010, Primary Care Progress is a national nonprofit committed to building stronger primary care teams. Working with current and future healthcare professionals from across disciplines and career stages - from students and faculty to providers and health systems leaders - we're strengthening the teams at the heart of primary care, ultimately leading to sustainable models of care and better health for all.

*The Catalyst Project is a partnership with  
The Wright Center for Graduate  
Medical Education*



The Wright Center for Graduate Medical Education is improving education and patient care in a collaborative spirit to enhance outcomes, access, and affordability.





# CATALYST PROJECT FAQ

## WHAT IS A COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT?

To maintain their not-for-profit status, hospitals must perform a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to identify the most pressing health needs of their community.

## WHAT CAN WE DO WITH A CHNA?

The CHNA can be used as a road map for anyone seeking to better align innovation efforts with pressing local health needs. It identifies available resources at academic institutions, can help create new linkages and opportunities, and better aligns education with practice.

## HOW DO TEAMS PLAY A CENTRAL ROLE?

Students and faculty are in a powerful position to create connections between schools and communities. Passionate groups of students can promote dialogue to identify concrete ways health systems can align care with the health needs of patients as well as those who have yet to seek care. By leveraging relationships with a diverse array of healthcare stakeholders, PCP teams can promote new academic community conversations that lead directly to new action.

## WHAT, WHERE, AND HOW WILL TEAMS LEAD?

Through the Catalyst Project, teams learn the essential skills of engaging stakeholders in both one-to-one and group settings. The curriculum includes training and skills development around teaming, meeting management, community health needs analysis, innovation in care delivery, stakeholder interviewing, and patient and community engagement. Skills are taught through learning collaboratives, didactics, consultations, coaching, interactive webinars, asynchronous videos, and coaching phone calls. Between learning sessions, teams advance their local initiatives and document progress.

## WHO ARE THE COACHES AND TRAINERS?

The national coaching/training team is comprised of coaches, trainers, and Subject Matter Experts who bring their unique expertise, experience, and insights to the Catalyst Project. Trainers include members of The Wright Center's Innovation Team, the PCP National Team, national experts in patient engagement and community needs analysis, and former PCP team leaders who have run similar initiatives in the past.

## CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE

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