

TO: John Ohanian
From: Susan DeMarois and Mark Beckley
Date: May 16, 2022
Re: Data Exchange Framework Recommendations

Hi John,

Thank you for the tremendous amount of work you have led for the Data Exchange (DX) Framework. I wanted to pass along the Department of Aging's feedback regarding the inclusion of Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) – specifically, home and community-based services and supports, as part of the broader framework. Including a SDOH data framework within the broader DX platform will help compile/exchange data across various type of providers that serve older adults and people with disabilities across the health and social services continuum (medical, behavioral health, social services, and long-term services and supports providers).

We believe including SDOH/home and community-based services/social services within the DX framework is critical because it provides insight into what services older adults and people with disabilities are (and are not) accessing including IHSS, CalFresh, nutrition, respite, and others. For the CalAIM initiative, the DX framework provides the opportunity for Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to exchange data with Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans, which will help coordinate and align vendor platforms across medical and non-medical providers. This would avoid the scenario of a community-based provider having to create different interfaces with different healthcare providers to exchange data.

Finally, we believe it is important to ensure that the considerations of home and community-based providers are addressed. As an example, many home and community-based providers do not have provider identification numbers as typically required/assumed in health information exchange. Without a clear and consistent way of identifying these providers, it will be hard to get/exchange reliable information about them and the services they provide.

Thank you for considering this feedback, we truly appreciate all of the groundbreaking work you and your team are undertaking. Please reach out if you have any questions or want further information.

Sincerely,
Susan and Mark