

Chronic Disease GIS SNAPSHOTS

HOW HEALTH DEPARTMENTS USE MAPS TO ADDRESS CHRONIC DISEASES

Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

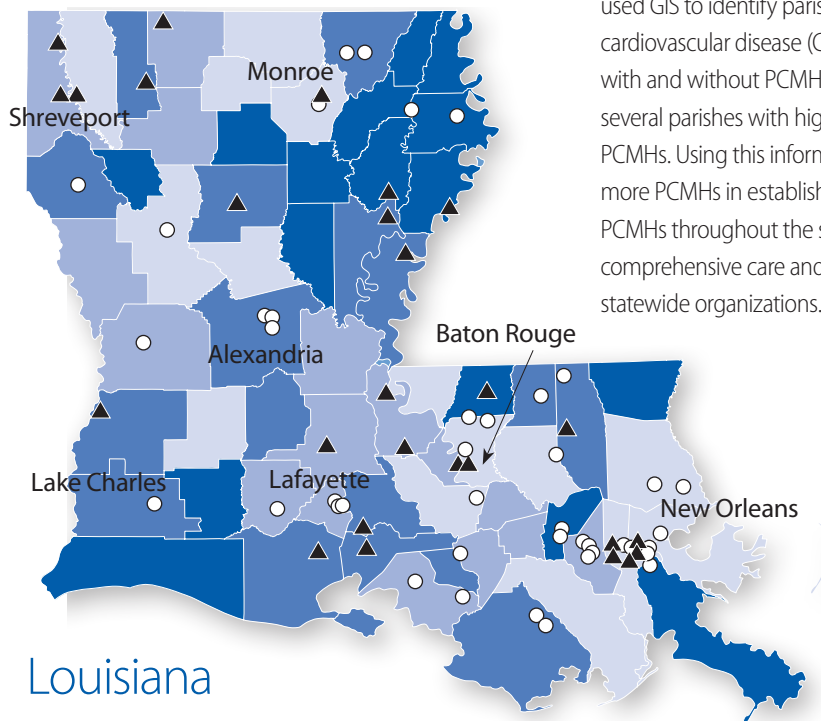
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Improving Access to Patient-Centered Medical Homes

Background: Louisiana's Chronic Disease Prevention and Control Unit plans to implement the Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model to deliver quality-driven, cost-effective, culturally appropriate primary care to residents across the state. PCMHs facilitate collaborative partnerships among patients, families, physicians, and other health care professionals that encourage active participation in care decisions. The model can be used

in Louisiana's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), which receive federal reimbursement to provide primary and preventive care to medically underserved populations. By integrating PCMHs into these established FQHCs, the comprehensive PCMH model of preventive and medical services becomes more accessible to low-income and vulnerable populations throughout Louisiana.

Action: Louisiana's Department of Health and Hospitals used GIS to identify parishes with a high burden of cardiovascular disease (CVD) and the location of FQHCs with and without PCMHs in the state. The map shows several parishes with high CVD death rates but without PCMHs. Using this information, Louisiana aims to implement more PCMHs in established FQHCs. The expansion of PCMHs throughout the state would improve access to comprehensive care and spur new partnerships with various statewide organizations.



Louisiana

This map shows the location of all FQHCs with and without PCMHs in Louisiana along with CVD death rates by parish. Mapping these data together reveals numerous parishes with high CVD death rates but without PCMHs. These parishes could benefit from establishing PCMHs within currently existing FQHCs.

Enhancing GIS Capacity

Staff from the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals enhanced geographic information systems (GIS) capacity within their agency by participating in a collaborative GIS Capacity Building Project provided by CDC, the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors, and the Children's Environmental Health Initiative at the University of Michigan.

The Power of GIS

Learn more about how public health personnel use the power of GIS to address chronic diseases and submit your own maps to the Chronic Disease GIS Exchange:

www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/maps/gisx.

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