



## Gratitude for your partnership

Dear ACT Center colleagues and friends,

With the holiday season upon us, our team at the ACT Center wants to take this opportunity to give thanks for the many partners who make our work possible: **the health care leaders, care teams, patients, and communities for whom health and health care are front and center every day.** Your ideas, collaboration, and commitment to continuous learning and improvement have given us much to be proud of in 2024! In addition to our latest news, here are few other highlights from our work with Kaiser Permanente Washington and other partners nationwide:

**Inclusion** was a big theme for us in the past year. Our Integrated Pain Management (IPM) Program team reached new milestones in patient engagement, with our patient partners co-leading a paper describing the [benefits of virtual collaboration](#). Our work on IPM also helped inspire the development of 2 new resources to help research teams prioritize equity and inclusion: the [Checklist for Inclusive Communications](#) and the [Project Lifecycle Checklist on Integrating Health Equity](#). And through our many partnerships in the Delta Center for a Thriving Safety Net, we collaborated with grantees nationwide to [help improve state policies and practices that support equity](#) in the integration of primary care and behavioral health.

The past year also reminded us of the **innovation** that's possible when research and care delivery come together in partnership to improve care. Within Kaiser Permanente Washington, we've been thrilled to leverage research to support leaders and care teams in [making cervical cancer screening easier for patients](#). We also had the unique opportunity to engage Family Medicine residents in leading [projects to improve blood pressure control and address disparities](#) across different patient groups. And working alongside our partners at Vayu Health in California, we used our research expertise to [inform the design of a whole-person program to improve diabetes care](#) for people insured through Medicaid managed care plans.

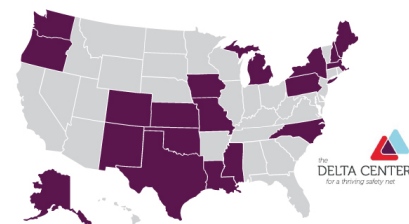
What matters most, of course, is the **impact** we make when we come together with a shared goal. Treatment of COVID-19 remains an important priority for health systems

## Our latest news



### ACT Center supports innovation in cancer screening

How Kaiser Permanente Washington is using learning health system research to make cervical cancer screening easier for members



### Celebrating Delta Center's impact on the safety net

Kelsey Stefanik-Guizlo reflects on ACT Center's 7-year partnership to improve care for communities in 19 states

everywhere — and with our advanced analytics capabilities, the ACT Center helped Kaiser Permanente Washington rapidly [develop and implement evidence-based tools to support COVID-19 treatment decisions](#). Looking back on our IPM Program, which concludes in 2024 after 4 amazing years, we're so proud of what we achieved working alongside patients and care teams: public-domain resources written by and for people who live with ongoing pain (available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)), as well as guidance to help health systems to [design and launch opioid safety committees](#) and to [restore trust between patients and clinicians](#) as evidence-based guidelines around opioid safety are implemented. Most importantly, our research so far is pointing to improved prescribing outcomes across clinics and providers in our health system — findings that we'll be excited to share in an upcoming newsletter in 2025!



### First 2 scholars selected for LHS E-STAR training program

Scholars are early-career scientists who will conduct research projects to improve health care

Our final important update is that December will bring a big **transition for ACT Center co-founder Katie Coleman**, who is moving on from her role as a center director to pursue new adventures focused on improving care in the safety net. We wish Katie all the best and invite you to read [this message](#) she prepared to express her gratitude to you all and to share more about her next venture and how to stay in touch.

With sincere thanks for your partnership and the difference it makes,

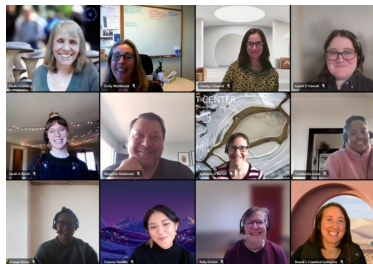
Claire Allen, Paula Lozano, and Emily Westbrook  
*On behalf of the ACT Center*

## Snapshots of ACT Center partnerships in action



### Washington LHS E-STAR Training Program

ACT Center team members gather with E-STAR patient partners in October. (L-R) Front row: Zandrea Harlin, Starette Canada, Victoria Goetz. Back row: Sunday Brush, Cindy Nie.



### Care Management for Chronic Pain (CMCP)

The CMCP team at Kaiser Permanente Washington. (L-R) Top row: Paula Lozano, Emily Westbrook, Christy Chantel, Laurel Hansell. Middle row: Sunday Brush, Ben Balderson, Kat Barnes, Scotteesha Jones. Bottom row: Jermae Dizon, Fran Pardillo, Kelly Ehrlich, Brandi Crawford-Gallagher.



### Optimizing the Primary Care Team Workforce

ACT Center team members and partners from Mathematica meet for a project funded by the California Health Care Foundation. (L-R) Katie Coleman, Rebeckah Muratore, Jess Mogk, Diane Rittenhouse.

## Stay in touch

We'd love to hear what you're working on! [Email us at act-center@kp.org](mailto:act-center@kp.org).

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*We at the Center for Accelerating Care Transformation would like to acknowledge that we are on the ancestral lands and traditional territories of the Puget Sound Coast Salish People.*

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Kaiser Permanente Washington  
Health Research Institute

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