Happy New Year!! Although we are already into February, the year still seems new and has brought with it some very exciting possibilities for Central Plains Health Care Partnership.

I am very excited to report that not only am I overseeing the Project Access program, I am also now responsible for another fantastic program, Health ICT.

Health ICT is a grant-funded program by the CDC, to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and then to us. Its main focus is to improve health outcomes for four chronic conditions: heart disease, diabetes, stroke and hypertension. The mission is to create and enhance sustainable environmental changes to help people achieve wellness, to transform systems with providers to empower patients, and to coordinate accessibility to healthy lifestyle programs.

Health ICT has only two full-time staff and one contracted physician; however, they are doing phenomenal work and have been very successful in the work they have done.

I am particularly excited about the opportunity to work with Health ICT, along with Project Access, because I believe there are some exciting possibilities for integrating services. Many of the patients seen through Project Access suffer from the same four chronic conditions targeted by Health ICT.

As we begin 2018, I want to offer my deepest appreciation to everyone who has helped make Project Access and Health ICT so successful. With the help of many of you, we were able to meet our fundraising goal in 2017 for Project Access. We continue to be the recipients of a caring and generous health care community. We also thank the City of Wichita, Sedgwick County and United Way for their ongoing support of Project Access.

We have now served more than 13,500 individuals since the beginning of Project Access. We were also able to help over 70 individuals become enrolled in an insurance plan through the Insurance Marketplace for the ACA.

We will be working this year to expand awareness of both Project Access and Health ICT. I ask that you help us spread the word about the wonderful work being done for low-income, uninsured residents of Sedgwick County, and now also the innovative work being done to improve health outcomes for four chronic health conditions. If you ever want to know more about what we do, please feel free to contact me at shelleyduncan@cphcp.com.

Shelley Duncan
Matt Thibault has been with Health ICT since June 2016. He previously administered the employee worksite wellness program at Via Christi. Matt is a Wichita native and earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in exercise science, with an emphasis in public health, from Wichita State University.

Matt is the Project Supervisor for Health ICT and oversees both components of the 1422 grant. He works more directly in Component 2 of the grant, which focuses on clinical interventions for the identification, prevention and management of diabetes and hypertension.

Matt and Health ICT’s medical consultant, Dr. Justin Moore, assist clinics with analyzing their current processes around diabetes and hypertension care and work with them to identify small changes that can improve patient outcomes, reduce physician burden and/or increase revenue. In proposed strategies, Health ICT works to involve the non-physician team members, such as nurses, pharmacists, medical assistants and community health workers, in the routine care of the patient.

Juliane Walker joined the Health ICT team in September 2017. She has a master’s degree in social work and has worked in the health and social service field in Wichita for more than 23 years. Juliane is the Project Coordinator for the work under Component 1 of the Health ICT 1422 grant, which focuses primarily on health promotion in Sedgwick County.

The strategies for Component 1 are structured to develop environmental approaches to promote health and support and reinforce healthy behaviors within the community. Juliane works with community partners and with worksites to help implement food and beverage guidelines and policies, strengthen healthier food access, and enhance promotion of physical activity.

She has a passion for working in wellness and is grateful to be a part of the Health ICT and Central Plains Health Care Partnership/Project Access team.

Justin Moore, MD, is a Kansas native who left his full-time endocrinology practice at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita in 2014 for a career in health care consulting. He serves as a medical consultant for Health ICT, with an emphasis on empowering physician offices to take advantage of teamwork and community resources for management of chronic diseases.

He is an avid, though mediocre, cyclist and aspiring author. He is an evangelist for bike paths and home cooking.

Many thanks to our most recent partners who have chosen to support the work of Central Plains Health Care Partnership through Project Access.

We would also like to thank the many physicians, hospitals and the network of donated care that this community provides for Project Access patients.

Thank you to the numerous individuals who donated to Central Plains Health Care Partnership in 2017!