Community interventions have shown limited success in reducing population level CHD. The Hearts Beat Back: The Heart of New Ulm Project recently implemented a systems model of prevention that integrates environmental, peer leadership, and individual health initiatives into the fabric of multiple segments of a rural Minnesota community including the healthcare system, worksites, and the general community.

See more at: www.heartsbeatback.org

Pre-post quality improvement analysis

Outcome was the absolute number of unique AMI’s (incident and recurrent) over 10 quarterly periods between Jan 2008 – Jun 2010. First 5 quarters represented baseline (ie, before active project interventions began) and the last 5 quarters represented follow-up (ie, after project interventions began).

Sampling frame included all residents of the 56073 zip code age ≥18 years (N≈10,000)

Both fatal and non-fatal AMIs recorded via an electronic surveillance system that screened for ICD-9 code 410 in death certificate and hospital discharge data.

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