



Vayu Health

Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (CDCES) Job Description

Vayu Health is a California non-profit set to launch a completely different care model for people with diabetes living in underserved communities, and we are looking for like-minded people passionate about equity, person-centered care, and reducing barriers to accessing high-caliber diabetes care. We believe that a major shift is needed in the way we care for low-income people living with a chronic condition, especially sub optimally controlled diabetes, and are currently looking to build out our clinical team.

If you love working in an innovative team environment, are excited by participating in creative programming for patients, and are an independent thinker and self-starter, this just might be the perfect opportunity for you.

About Us

Vayu Health is a California non-profit start-up company with a radically different approach to healthcare. Our vision is to transform the lives of underserved Medicaid members living with multiple chronic conditions, behavioral health needs, and social determinants of health (SDOH) through a team-based approach to care which places patients at the center of decisions about their own health. We are passionately driven to improve health, equity, and experiences for every patient we work with, while also lowering costs.

Our care model is rooted in trusting relationships with patients, and also with the providers, community partners and health plans that we work with. To sustain vibrant, patient-centered programs we are designing a payment model that rewards our care team for doing the right thing at the right time for these vulnerable populations.

A Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan has agreed to an implementation partnership with a community clinic system in rural California and we are building our team now to launch this exciting program. We have not seen that incremental change leads to an equitable health care system, so we created this collaboration as the first step of a significant shift in how Medicaid primary care providers and patients experience care, and how health plans cover costs.

Our Team

Our team is made up of people that are excited about building something new, and every team member regardless of role has a voice in creating our new company. Our team believes passionately in reducing barriers to care for vulnerable populations, and has a strong focus on equity. The care team includes local community coaches, certified diabetes educators, licensed clinical social workers, and community clinic physicians. With this multidisciplinary team, care delivery will be a combination of coordinated, proactive in-person and virtual care, delivered when and where the patient wants and needs it.

The Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (CDCES) is an integral part of our team, participating in direct patient care as well as building and improving our clinical model. The CDCES role is part-time (50%), with the opportunity to expand to a full-time role with the addition of direct coaching duties. The position is largely a virtual (at home) role, with travel within California, such as to the Chico/Yuba City region, as required.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Co-manage panel of 50-100 patients living with diabetes and potentially other chronic conditions, with combined remote and primary care-based team members
- Serve as back-up coach for patient panel, which entails serving as primary point of contact for patients and facilitating connections within the community and other team members
- Utilize teaching techniques that are sensitive to the cultural and learning preferences of the person with diabetes to: teach diabetes self-management skills, coach on glucose testing, support continuous glucose monitoring (CGM), perform general medication titration and dosing by protocol, deliver diabetes specific training (i.e. carb counting, hypoglycemia, diabetes ketoacidosis), partner with provider on insulin delivery, and other critical skills
- Complete comprehensive assessments for each patient including emotional and behavioral health, to develop an individualized care plan based on the patient's needs and goals
- Conduct home visits occasionally to individuals at high risk of health problems if required
- Actively participate in virtual daily team huddles and largely virtual weekly case conferences to collaborate, advocate, and confer on patient health needs to develop and improve person-centered action plans
- Engage in target setting for the new clinical initiatives and managing those targets, including decreasing unnecessary hospitalizations, emergency room visits, and unnecessary specialty referrals and participate in quality improvement process to effect change.
- Apply systems practice and population health management to support achievement of the Quadruple Aim (reduced costs, better outcomes, improved experience, and improved work life for healthcare providers)
- Perform other duties as assigned

Requirements for the Role

- Valid license as a California Registered Dietician or Registered Nurse
- Certification as a Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (CDCES) in California
- At least three years working with adults and/or pediatric individuals with chronic medical and chronic behavioral health diagnoses, and day to day chronic care management, especially diabetes management
- Experience partnering with providers on starting insulin and the monitoring required for dose adjustments and safety needs per protocol
- Experience with continuous glucose monitoring systems
- Willing to take calls outside of normal business hours as urgent patient needs arise

Essential Qualities & Mindset

- Excel at empathy and human interactions, with passion to improve individual and community health
- Excited to wear many hats within a small startup environment
- Willing to work with the Vayu model of interdisciplinary teams, with the Coach as the main direct interface with the patient
- Flexible and positive attitude, radiating positive energy and assuming good intentions
- A self-starter who can work independently and collaboratively to deliver results
- Excited about how technology can support the work and help drive toward new, better care
- Respects and has a passion for working for the underserved, Medicaid population
- Highly organized and strong attention to detail

We offer competitive salaries and benefits consistent with experience.