The main trend is how we continue to have to focus the opportunity and the importance that our health and human services work interplays with the opportunities of healthcare. We know that safe, affordable, sustainable housing is critical to containing healthcare costs. We know that transportation and employment and education all interrelates into healthcare. And so that’s one trend and it’s a very challenging trend because healthcare has operated its own regulatory way as we have. And so now we start talking about the wholeness of the individual. So I think the interface between our health and human services in primary healthcare continues to be a trend that we want to watch. But that being said, I think that continued aha moments that some many jurisdictions at a federal, state and a local level are having around the great opportunity that integration brings not just in cost savings, but most importantly, our impact.

Nobody Can Truly Succeed Alone

Susan Dreyfus, President & CEO, Alliance for Strong Families and Communities
Our biggest disruptive force and biggest opportunity is healthcare reform. And the reason I say that is because if we get it right as a nation, if we truly understand the neuro bio psycho social intersection of health, right, and we understand that we could be doing everything right on the primary care and mental health side, right, and still not bend the cost curve of healthcare and have healthier outcomes, because the socio and economic determinants of health are going to
trump our healthcare efforts every
time. Five percent of the population
drives 50% of the costs, and it’s
going to take this true integration of
the neuro bio psycho social
intersection of health to get it done.
So what I say to my healthcare
friends is, you can’t do it without us.
But what I say to my Human
Services friend, if we can get this
right, if we can improve the health of
our nation, right, and we can truly
bend that cost curve, we’re not just
going to transform healthcare, we
will radically transform the Human
Services delivery system from deep
end to front end which is generative.