The Gravity Project Vision and Strategic Goals

**Vision:** The Gravity Project is striving to create a world where health and social care organizations readily share the information needed to effectively meet the social needs of individuals and advance health equity and improve health outcomes in communities by using standard terminology and technology.

The Gravity Project is envisioned as a diverse collaborative of relevant experts centered on solving the information exchange needs that advance health equity and improve population health. The mission of the Gravity Project is the development and advancement of open data standards using HL7® FHIR® and associated terminologies that form the basis of modern social care interoperability.

The Gravity Project has grown into a leading multidisciplinary community that has successfully introduced a nationally recognized set of open data standards-based terminologies to support care across 17 social risk domains and a complete closed loop referral Implementation Guide. Gravity will continue to advance its mission by leveraging its core standards to address national healthcare interoperability priorities related to social care delivery and quality reporting.

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| 1  | Grow and maintain a vibrant community with sustainable governance, funding, and an operational model that strengthens Gravity Project partnerships and community-led consensus-based goals. | • Understand from the various stakeholders and interested parties the value proposition of cross-sector interoperable exchange.  
• Strengthen Gravity Project operations with support from HL7.  
• Make strategic plans interdependent across designated partners.  
• Identify a stable funding stream for the Gravity Project. | • Maintain Gravity leadership community and manage work plans, budgets and operations.  
• Create and update a sustainability plan.  
• Pursue funding opportunities and sponsors.  
• Grow and retain members. |
| 2  | Convene and support a diverse community with expertise and lived experience of addressing and meeting social needs, through care, administrative support and informatics. | • Maintain a diverse stakeholder community who directly develop, curate and implement Gravity-affiliated standards and content.  
• Work with other health and SDOH community efforts to collaborate, crowdsource and harmonize Gravity-affiliated standards and content. | • Revive and maintain public meetings for Gravity and open-source standards.  
• Increase engagement and representation among community social care partners.  
• Outreach to other partners with interest and content related to the Gravity space.  
• Develop and execute a member onboarding program that helps organizations participate fully and realize mutual benefit. |
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| 3 | Accelerate data standard solutions to address the payment and reporting needs of community-based organizations and other stakeholders that limit equitable health and social care, leveraging HL7® FHIR®, in conjunction with other standards as needed. | • Evolve all deliverables to better meet the needs of the health and social care ecosystem.  
• Evaluate and evolve Gravity standards to ensure they address the following national priorities: collective documentation burden, quality use cases, reimbursement, and the goal of health equity.  
• Work with payers and social programs to harmonize program content and build new data sets to establish billable content and facilitate value-based care arrangements, e.g. using Gravity-defined value sets for food insecurity.  
• Continue to maintain and operate existing terminology, technology, and pilot workstreams.  
• Support standards development for CBO-to-CBO Referrals, leveraging existing IGs.  
• Define methodology techniques for tailoring the information shared between health systems and CBOs to maximize CBO needs (e.g. what’s necessary for enrolling in services) while ensuring control for the individual about which information is shared with whom (Patient Consent.) | • Identify, improve, and create data classes and elements that support interoperability for quality measures, billing, and other health equity needs.  
• Expanding standard CPT and HCPCS terminology for claims-based quality reporting such as HEDIS  
• Develop and advance guidance and tools for provider screening requirements as part of IPPS 2023 Final Rule  
• Develop CPT and HCPCS to support documentation of social care products and services to support policy requirements, such as CalAim, and enable sustainable CBO partnerships  
• Support expansion of ICD codes to use in value-based payment models  
• Develop methods to document eligibility and enrollment in services per client  
• Define and incorporate standards for documenting critical health equity demographic elements (race and ethnicity, gender, sex for clinical use, pronouns, sexual orientation, language)  
• Evaluate alternate FHIR architecture patterns to ascertain if there is a referenceable starting point in the existing FHIR space  
• Develop Reference library for structure map of questionnaires.  
• Determine the LOE to deliver an IG extension to support CBO in eligibility determination. |
| 4 | Enable Health and Social Care organizations to effectively implement and test Gravity Project SDOH data exchange and terminology standards to ensure they better meet community needs. | • Test interoperability of SDOH data exchange using FHIR.  
• Facilitate real-world implementation of consensus-based terminology and technical standards using a tiered (incremental) piloting approach.  
• Gather and disseminate lessons learned from standards testing and implementation using an open and transparent process. | • Support Tier 2 level piloting activities and ensure feedback loop into standards development.  
• Support Tier 3 (SDOH Clinical Care IG with FHIR) level piloting activities.  
• Implement and test quality, administrative, and health equity use cases to ensure they adequately meet stakeholder needs.  
• Inform\develop conformance tests for apps to demonstrate alignment with the IG.  
• Develop materials to assist implementers with efficient application of social care data standards. |
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| 5 | Increase awareness of Gravity work among broader stakeholder groups. | • Improve CBO relations, buy-in of FHIR and the Gravity IG.  
• Liaise with other industry initiatives, communities, and government entities to educate and align use and development of standards. | • Support Planned and ad hoc Communications.  
• Engage end-user participation in CBO-to-CBO IG development.  
• Work with HL7 Policy Group to share inputs to RFIs in the SDOH domain. |