

Dear BHACA Community,

Happy August! We have a couple of great BHACA events coming up this month (see headlines below!). Be on the lookout in upcoming blasts for additional events this fall.

BHACA Blast #67 Headlines:

- ***BHACA Event: Being a Clinician in a Legal World***

Event Overview: Our clinical colleagues have told us that an area in which they would really like more training is that amorphous and often nerve-racking intersection of clinical practice and the law. In response, this event is designed to enhance the knowledge of all clinical practitioners on a wide range of legal issues including confidentiality, medical records, subpoenas, testifying, social media, liability, and board complaints. We plan an array of interactive sessions with opportunity to bring your own concerns (confidentially and anonymously) to the discussion.

Location: United Way of Greater Houston (50 Waugh Drive, Houston, Texas 77007)

Date & Time: Thursday, August 18, 2016, 11:30am to 3:45pm

CEU Credit: 3 hours of ethics CEUs available for social workers, LMFTs, LPCs, and LCDCs

Cost: Pre-event pricing is \$25 for members of the Network of Behavioral Health Providers, \$45 for nonmembers. Day of the event pricing is \$30 for members of the Network of Behavioral Health Providers and \$50 for nonmembers. Credit cards, cash and checks made payable to the Network of Behavioral Health Providers will be accepted both in advance and at the door. All pre-event payments must be received by August 15, 2016.

To Learn More and to RSVP: [click here](#)

- ***BHACA Event: Integrated Primary Care Behavioral Health Networking Group of Greater Houston***

Event Overview: Please join us for a peer networking group for clinicians, students, and administrators to support each other toward Primary Care and Behavioral Health Integration.

Topic: Tracking key PCBH outcomes for sustainable programs

Presenter/Discussion Facilitator: Elaine Hess, PhD, Behavioral Health Consultant, Healthcare for the Homeless-Houston

Location: MHA Greater Houston, 2211 Norfolk, Suite 810, Houston, TX 77098

Date: Friday, August 19, 2016, 2:30 – 4:00 PM

To RSVP: Please e-mail Lauren at lpursley@mhahouston.org

All the best,

The BHACA Team

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NBHP website – www.nbhp.org

MHA website – www.mhahouston.org

BHACA: Integrated Health Care (IHC)

- ***Reminder – Webinar – Quality Improvement in Integrated Care: A Practical Introduction***

Date & Time: Wednesday, August 24, 11:00 AM Central time

To Register: [Click here](#)

Organizer: Collaborative Family Healthcare Association (CFHA) Research & Evaluation Committee

Presenter: Joseph R. Grasso, PhD, Postdoctoral Research Fellow & VA Quality Scholar, San Francisco VA Medical Center

Description:

Quality improvement (QI) can make clinical service delivery safer, more cost effective, more time efficient, and more patient centered, but many of us still don't understand how to do QI or what it entails. A basic understanding of quality improvement is rapidly becoming a requirement for medical providers and allied health professionals alike. This presentation will provide an introduction to the fundamentals of QI and will also review the unique ways in which QI can be applied to integrated care settings. We'll also use case-based examples to help illustrate how QI has been used to create novel integrated care models and enhance existing ones.

- ***Recorded Webinar – Lessons on Integrated Care from the VA and DoD*** – Primary and behavioral health care integration has long been a priority within the Veterans Administration (VA) and Department of Defense (DoD). How do their practices apply to safety-net health care providers? View this webinar from the SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions (CIHS) to hear from VA and DoD integration experts on how you can transfer the latest practices to your own efforts to integrate primary and behavioral health care. Also learn about the latest tools and resources from the VA and DoD to help guide your implementation. To view the recorded webinar, please visit [CIHS' webpage](#) and scroll down to "Webinars."

BHACA: Choosing a Certified Electronic Health Record System

- ***Commentary: Finding the hidden ROI in EHR implementation:*** Rushed implementation of electronic health records (EHRs) may have led to reductions in productivity for providers due to management's failure to bridge the gap between the new technology, financial managers and the front line clinicians, according to Modern Healthcare. If implemented correctly, EHRs should produce efficiencies in the form of reduced clerical overburden and reduced rework due to inadequate or inaccurate documentation. To view more, please [click here](#).
- ***EHRs and digital health tools 'dramatically transforming' care experience, patients say:*** Nearly 75 percent of patients expressed a high level of interest in accessing their electronic medical records, according to new research, and 33 percent indicated that EHRs have already changed their experience for the better. "The patient experience is dramatically transforming," CareCloud CEO Ken Comee

said in a statement. “Patients of all ages are actually embracing digital online patient engagement tools from scheduling appointments to accessing their medical records and making online payments.” Contradicting stereotypes that millennials are the leading technology adopters, a CareCloud survey of 1,443 patients determined that Baby Boomers (51-65 years of age) are the group most likely to use healthcare tools. To view more, please [click here](#).

- ***Are EHR vendors poised to extinguish public HIEs?:*** The longevity of public health information exchanges has long been obscured with questions of financial sustainability and the viability to provide services hospitals cannot undertake on their own. Researchers at the University of Michigan found an 11 percent drop in the number of state and community exchanges between 2012 and 2014 from a total of 119 HIEs down to 106 — and perhaps the more telling discovery is that all are facing barriers to success while only half of those reported financial stability. To view more, please [click here](#).

BHACA: Maximizing Third Party Funding Streams Revenue—Resources Related to Insurance Billing and Credentialing

- ***Webinar – MACRA 101: An Introduction to MACRA’s Quality Payment Program and its Impact on Medicare Part B Reimbursement***
Date & Time: Thursday, August 4, 1:00 PM Central time
To Register: [Click here](#)
Organizer: National Council for Behavioral Health
Presenters: Frank M. Winter, Partnership Manager for the Regional Office of External Affairs at Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services; Nina Marshall, MSW, Senior Director, Policy and Practice Improvement, National Council for Behavioral Health; Elizabeth Arend, MPH, Quality Improvement Advisor, National Council for Behavioral Health
Description: The National Council read the 962-page MACRA rule so you don’t have to. This one hour webinar focuses on MACRA’s proposed quality payment program, which completely overhauls how Medicare Part B clinicians will be paid starting in 2017. Join for an overview of the proposed rule, and its expected impact on behavioral health care providers.
- ***Webinar – The Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) Survival Guide***
Date & Time: Thursday, August 11, 1:00 PM Central time
To Register: [Click here](#)
Organizer: National Council for Behavioral Health
Presenters: Nina Marshall, MSW, Senior Director, Policy and Practice Improvement, National Council for Behavioral Health; Elizabeth Arend, MPH, Quality Improvement Advisor, National Council for Behavioral Health
Description: What do you get when you combine the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS), the Value-based Payment Modifier and Meaningful Use? MIPS! It is anticipated that most behavioral health Medicare Part B providers will be subject to

MIPS in 2017. Join the National Council for this one-hour webinar to understand the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid's new quality payment program and what your behavioral health organization can do now to prepare for its implementation in 2017.

- ***Webinar – PQRS & MIPS in the Real World: Three Organizations Share Their Experiences***

Date & Time: Tuesday, August 16, 1:00 PM Central time

To Register: [Click here](#)

Organizer: National Council for Behavioral Health

Presenters: Spencer L. Gear, ACSW, LCSW-C, Chief Systems Officer, Mosaic Community Services, Inc.; Martha Ryan, Manager, Meaningful Use, South Shore Mental Health; Christina VanRegenmorter, MSWS, PMP, VP of Clinical Excellence, Centerstone; Elizabeth Arend, MPH, Quality Improvement Advisor, National Council for Behavioral Health

Description: Join the National Council for this one-hour webinar and hear how three behavioral health organizations participated in PQRS, the challenges they faced, and how they're applying the lessons they learned to prepare for MIPS in 2017.

BHACA: Outcome-Based Evaluation

- ***How do you measure population health management success?*** If you're using the Triple Aim to organize your population health management efforts, one of your biggest challenges may be how to measure your progress. To get some clarity and guidance, read the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) white paper, A Guide to Measuring the Triple Aim. Draw from the experience of the organizations that took part in the IHI Triple Aim prototyping initiative, and learn from their examples for assessing improvement, setting up measures, and identifying useful data sources. Viewing of this resource does require online registration but it is free of charge. To view more, please [click here](#).

About BHACA: The Behavioral Health Affordable Care Act (BHACA) Initiative is a major collaborative endeavor of the Network of Behavioral Health Providers (NBHP) and Mental Health America of Greater Houston (MHA) designed to support Greater Houston area mental health and substance use providers in responding to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and other recent healthcare reforms across four domains: (1) enhancing and increasing the delivery of integrated health care (IHC), (2) maximizing third party funding streams revenue, (3) adopting certified electronic health record (EHR) systems, and (4) developing outcome-based evaluations. The BHACA Initiative is generously funded by Houston Endowment Inc., The Meadows Foundation, the United Way of Greater Houston Community Response Fund, and the Rockwell Fund.