

Dear BHACA Community,

If it is true that April showers bring May flowers, then this April we are “showering” you with events. We trust these efforts will prove fruitful for you and “blossom” into enriched outcome-based evaluation and integrated health care programs in the months to come!

BHACA Blast #8 Headlines – Three Upcoming Events:

- **Registration Now Open for “Rebooting Evaluation: From Tedious Exercise to Essential Change Agent” – Thursday, April 24** – This is a Community Educational Event focused on Outcome-Based Evaluation for the Affordable Care Act and Behavioral Health Providers.
- **Register for Next IHC Open Discussion Meeting – Wednesday, April 23**
- **May 5 Site Visit – Community Registration Now Open** – Community registration is now open for the May 5 site visit to an IHC partnership clinic in Bastrop. Only a few spots remain at this time.

You’ll find more information, including registration, for each of these events below and/or attached. Please let us know if you have any questions. We hope to see you!

Our best,
The BHACA Team

Marion Coleman, NBHP Executive Director
Alejandra Posada, MHA IHC Project Director
Elizabeth Reed, Assistant Project Manager
Yvonne Mendoza, Project Assistant

BHACA: Outcome-Based Evaluation

- **Registration Now Open for “Rebooting Evaluation: From Tedious Exercise to Essential Change Agent” – Thursday, April 24** – This is a Community Educational Event focused on Outcome-Based Evaluation for the Affordable Care Act and Behavioral Health Providers with Dr. Toni Watt, researcher and professor of sociology at Texas State University. The event will take place at The Council on Alcohol and Drugs Houston. Please find the event agenda attached. **Register through this link:** <http://www.nbhp.org/rebooting-evaluation.html>

BHACA: Integrated Health Care (IHC)

- **Register for Next IHC Open Discussion Meeting – Wednesday, April 23, 2:00 – 3:30 PM** – The next IHC Open Discussion Meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 23, from 2:00 to 3:30 PM at the MHA offices. Please register at <http://www.mhahouston.org/events/236/>. As we decided at the first Open Discussion Meeting, we’ll have a topic and a brief related presentation to start off the discussion. The topic for April 23 will be “Wellness in Integrated Health Care Programs,” with a brief presentation from Kerri-Anne Parkes, MPH, a current

doctoral student at the UT School of Public Health. Although this topic will serve as a starting point for discussion, the meeting will also be open to discuss other IHC-related topics according to your needs and interests.

- **May 5 Site Visit – Community Registration Now Open** – Community registration is now open for the May 5 site visit to an IHC partnership clinic in Bastrop. Attached to this e-mail, you'll find a document with additional information as well as the registration form. To register for the site visit, please fill out the registration form and e-mail it to Yvonne at ymendoza@mhahouston.org. Space is limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis. In addition, depending upon demand, we may need to limit the number of attendees from the same organization.
- **IHC Evaluation** – One of the topics on which participants at IHC events have indicated a great deal of interest is evaluation of integrated health care services. Since this topic dovetails so closely with another BHACA area – outcome-based evaluation – we are planning an event relevant to both topic areas. If you are interested in IHC evaluation, we encourage you to register for and attend the event “Rebooting Evaluation: From Tedious Exercise to Essential Change Agent.” Registration information is available above in the “Outcome-Based Evaluation” section of this blast.
- **TOMORROW – Thursday, April 10 – An Update on Financing Integrated Healthcare – Webinar from National Council for Behavioral Health**
Date & Time: Thursday, April 10, 1:00 – 2:30 PM Central time
Presenters: Kathy Reynolds, MSW, ACSW, Vice President, Health Integration and Wellness Promotion and Jeff Capobianco, PhD, LLP, Director of Practice Improvement, National Council for Behavioral Health
To register: <http://www.thenationalcouncil.org/events-and-training/webinars/>
Description from National Council e-mail: Financing is often a barrier to adopting integrated healthcare. Review financing options including how to determine if your state's health rate can fund your integration activities and billing options for integrated care. Discuss the impact of Health Homes and bundled rates on preparing for the future.
- **American Psychiatric Association Roundtable and Resources on Integrated Care** – Last Friday, the American Psychiatric Association (APA) hosted a roundtable on the economic impact of integrated care. To view a recording of the event and access related materials, please see <http://www.psych.org/practice/professional-interests/integrated-care/integrated-care-reconnecting-the-brain-and-the-body>. Additional resources are available on the APA's Integrated Care page at <http://www.psychiatry.org/integratedcare>. Items of note include a link to subscribe to Integrated Care News Notes (weekly newsletter); an APA Resource Document on Risk Management and Liability Issues in Integrated Care Models; and a listing of various research articles providing evidence for integrated care.

Other Resources of Interest

- **New legislation as of March 31st: An overview of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act (H.R. 4302), which included a demonstration program based on the Excellence in Mental Health Act:** www.thenationalcouncil.org/topics/excellence-in-mental-health-act/

- **A Primer and/or Refresher on “Mental Health Parity” as published by *Health Affairs* on April 3, 2014:** www.healthaffairs.org/healthpolicybriefs/brief.php?brief_id=112