

Dear BHACA Community,

BHACA Blast #30 Headlines:

- **A Texas-sized Thank You!** We just want to take a moment to thank all of you for being part of our BHACA Listserv and, more importantly, responding so enthusiastically to our educational and technical assistance offerings over the past year and a half. It has been our goal to provide you with events and classes that can help you in your own journey through the healthcare reform transitions, and we hope that our input has made that work easier and more successful. That said, we know we have not addressed anywhere near all the issues that continue to emerge. And as you may already know, we use input from you, the providers, to tell us what your challenges are and what we can offer to be of assistance. So as well as saying thanks, we also want to say please keep the input coming. Feel free to email any of us below at any time. If you need it, we will do our best to see how we can be of help!
- Would you like to smile as big as these folks who just completed one of our billing, coding, and credentialing classes? There are still a few spots left in the upcoming.... Email Elizabeth Reed to reserve your seat!



- **This Week's BHACA Featured Outcome Measure is – [Global Assessment of Functioning \(GAF\)](#).** Please find more information below in the Outcome-Based Evaluation section.

All best,

The BHACA Team

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NBHP website – www.nbhp.org

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BHACA: Integrated Health Care (IHC)

- ***STARTS TODAY!! Substance Use/SBIRT Cross-Training Opportunity: A FREE 2015 SBIRT Webinar Series Has Been Announced***—each webinar provides 1.5 hours free CEs. Full Schedule:

Implementing SBIRT in Health Centers: Examples from the Field

- Wednesday, February 18, 2015 @ 2-3:30pm CST—[Register Now!](#)

SBIRT: A Brief Clinical Training for Adolescent Providers

- Wednesday, March 18, 2015 @ 2-3:30pm CST—[Register Now!](#)

All About SBIRT for Teens

- Wednesday, April 15, 2015 @ 2-3:30pm CST—[Register Now!](#)

Understanding the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and SBIRT

- Wednesday, April 29, 2015 @ 2-3:30pm CST—[Register Now!](#)

Screening and Brief Interventions in Primary Care and Senior Care Facilities for Older Adults at Risk for Possible Substance Use Disorders and/or Depression

- Wednesday, May 13, 2015 @ 2-3:30pm CST—[Register Now!](#)

A Military Culture Approach to SBIRT for Veterans & Active Duty Personnel

- Wednesday, June 10, 2015 @ 2-3:30pm CST—[Register Now!](#)

Drugs are a Local Phenomenon for LGBTQ Populations: Implications for SBIRT

- Wednesday, July 22, 2015 @ 2-3:30pm CST—[Register Now!](#)

Integrating Screening and Brief Intervention for Alcohol and Other Drugs in Behavioral Health Settings Serving College Students

- Wednesday, August 19, 2015 @ 2-3:30pm CST—[Register Now!](#)

- ***January Edition of e-Solutions*** – The latest edition of the Center for Integrated Health Solutions’ online newsletter, e-Solutions, focuses on the inclusion of oral health in integrated health care settings. Please see <http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/about-us/esolutions-newsletter/e-solutions-jan-2015>.
- ***New Resource – “Analyzing the Costs of Integrated Care: A Brief Guide for Behavioral Health Care Clinics”*** – The SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions compiled “[Analyzing the Costs of Integrated Care: A Brief Guide for Behavioral Health Care Clinics](#)” to help community behavioral health centers understand the process of estimating and analyzing the

costs of providing primary care services to adults with serious mental illness. [Learn more](#) about the five steps to conduct a cost analysis.

- ***Collaborative Family Healthcare Association (CFHA) February Webinar – Taming Wild Families in the Exam Room***
Date & Time: Monday, February 23, 2:00 PM Central
For More Information and to Register:
<http://www.cfha.net/?page=Webinars>
Description: All clinicians face the challenge of disruptive or uncooperative families in the exam room. Yet, such situations provide a wonderful opportunity to model appropriate parenting skills, build rapport with patients and families, and strengthen the relationship between clinician and client. In this presentation, participants will: 1) design a strategy for addressing problematic parent-child interactions in the exam room; 2) apply techniques, based on empathy and reason, with “wild” families; and 3) recognize opportunities to model empathy and responsibility with parents and children.

BHACA: Choosing a Certified Electronic Health Record System

- ***Qualifacts Webinar – Payment Reform & Technology: What Your EHR Needs To Thrive In A Pay-For-Performance Environment,***
Date & Time: Thursday, February 19 at 1:00 PM Central Time
For More Information and to Register: [Click Here](#)
Presenter: Mary Givens, Product Manager of Healthcare Reform
Description: With all the recent changes in the behavioral health care landscape and the shift towards a pay-for-performance environment, does your organization have the tools it needs to be successful? This shift to a pay-for-performance environment is requiring organizations to utilize key tools and electronic health record (EHR) functionality in order to succeed. This webinar will provide details on the key tools in an EHR that are necessary to support your organization with health care reform changes.
- ***HIPAA compliance can be all the more challenging in a technologically advanced health care system, but...*** the magazine *Healthcare IT News* highlights some tech solutions for controlling HIPAA compliance, such as, “Newer forms of authentication like biometrics or even smart cards or tokens” that are, “far more secure than using the traditional passwords.” To read more, [click here](#).

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

- ***Capitol Hill was abuzz last week regarding ICD-10:*** To read more about the Capitol Hill hearing on ICD-10, forecasting whether to expect the ICD-10 roll-

out (finally?) on Oct. 1, 2015, or to expect further delays, read more [here](#).

- ***In other states, more insurers expand coverage to include Methadone treatment:*** read more [here](#). Could this be a trend that moves to Texas one day?

BHACA: Outcome-Based Evaluation

- ***BHACA Blast #30: Featured Outcome Measure –Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF)***
 - **What is the GAF?** The Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) assigns a clinical judgment in numerical fashion to the individual's overall functioning level. The GAF Scale represents the fifth stage of the multi-axial assessment process that clinicians and physicians may use to determine an individual's level of psychosocial functioning:
 - Axis I - Clinical Disorders (anxiety, dementia, etc.)
 - Axis II - Personality Disorders (OCD, aggressive, etc.)
 - Axis III - General Medical Conditions (diabetes, heart disease, etc.)
 - Axis IV - Social and Environmental Problems (life stressors, family issues, etc.)
 - Axis V - Global Assessment of Functioning
 - **What does it measure?** The three areas examined by the GAF are:
 - Psychological
 - Social and interpersonal
 - Occupational
 - **For which populations/age(s) is the GAF appropriate?**
The GAF is appropriate for all adults 18 years and older. The CGAS (Children's Global Assessment Scale) can be using for adolescents and children under the age of 18.
 - **How long does the GAF take to complete?**
The assessment is designed so it can be administered in as few as three minutes.
 - **How is it administered?**
The GAF should be administered by a clinician who knows how to use the tool correctly and effectively.
 - **Can I get the GAF in other languages?**
The GAF has been translated in other languages, but there are concerns about the translations because of different cultures. For more information on the GAF, [click here](#).
 - **A note about BHACA's Featured Outcome Measures**
Our intention is to expand awareness of and knowledge about existing outcome measures within the BHACA community. In featuring a

measure, we do not mean to endorse it as the right fit for your practice, because the appropriateness of a measure for any one behavioral health practice must be evaluated with that specific practice in mind. We hope you enjoy our featured outcome measures section.

- ***For those billing or planning to bill Medicare:*** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced a Virtual Office Hours (VOH) session regarding Getting Started with Quality Measures (Measures 101) and the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) which will affect all those providers eligible to bill for Medicare services, including psychologists and LCSW's.

Date: Monday, February 23

Time: 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CST

To Register: [Click here.](#)

Description: This Measures 101 session will allow stakeholders an opportunity to ask a CMS representative questions about submitting prospective quality measures for the PQRS program. A CMS representative will provide a brief presentation on the process and timeline for submitting prospective measures for implementation in the PQRS program. This brief presentation is followed by a question and answer session where participants can ask clarifying questions.

BHACA: Additional Items of General Interest

- ***SAMHSA's new report titled the "National Behavioral Health Barometer," which compares 2009 to 2013 data,*** finds an uptick in substance use services generally, good news regarding the outcomes of key measures for adolescents, and opportunities for improvement re. the utilization of treatment. To read a summary of the findings from the magazine *Behavioral Healthcare*, [click here](#). To view and download the original national or any state Behavioral Health Barometer, visit the SAMHSA website at <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/browse-report-document-type?tab=46>.

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

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