

Dear BHACA Community,

It is that time of year when we are starting to report to our funders, and as we analyzed the BHACA activities over the past 10 months of Year 2, we are thrilled to report that in 24 events, classes, webinars, or networking meetings we have reached close to 650 people. Thanks to all of you for your support of our work. And get ready for even more offerings as we complete this year and move into Year 3!

BHACA Blast #35 Headlines:

- **Only 15 More Registration Slots Available! – Brief Behavioral Health Interventions in Primary Care: Billing Considerations and Clinical Training** – BHACA, the Harris County Healthcare Alliance, The Council on Recovery, and Beacon Health Strategies are co-sponsoring this educational event on **May 8th**. Healthcare administrators, billing staff, behavioral health clinicians, and other healthcare professionals are invited to learn about integrating brief behavioral health interventions into a primary care setting, from both a financial and a clinical perspective. **Find more information and register to attend at <http://www.mhahouston.org/events/399/>.**
- **A video of the PQRS training by CMS for BHACA from Thursday, April 9th, is archived here:** www.youtube.com/watch?v=hleWHzoAYxo&feature=youtu.be.

All best,

The BHACA Team

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BHACA: Integrated Health Care (IHC)

- ***Webinar from Center for Integrated Health Solutions – Consultation for Kids: Models of Psychiatric Consultation in Pediatric Primary Care***
Date & Time: Monday, May 4, 1:00 PM Central time
To Register: [Click here](#)
Presenters: John H. Straus, MD, Founding Director, Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Project, Medical Director Special Projects, Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership; Vincent Biggs, MD, Pediatrician, Holyoke Health Center, Holyoke, MA
Description:

In any kind of health care visit -- a routine checkup or treatment for a cold or a playground injury -- pediatric providers can use those encounters to monitor a child's social, emotional, and physical development. If a provider does identify a potential mental health concern, what resources can they turn to for additional support? Thankfully, many providers have access to psychiatrists and other behavioral health clinicians who can provide consultation in real time, allowing for confident diagnosis, treatment, and referral for patients who need mental health and substance use treatment. Psychiatric consultation is a valuable asset in any effort to promote integration and fill workforce gaps. Twenty-eight states have some capacity to provide psychiatric consultation to pediatric providers, and the model is being refined and expanded to other parts of the country. Join this webinar to learn about the pediatric psychiatric consultation model in Massachusetts, the first statewide model of its kind. Hear from a safety-net pediatrician on how a busy clinician can effectively tap into psychiatric consultation to provide high quality mental health care for his patients. Also learn which components of psychiatric consultation models can be implemented or better utilized in your region, state or community. This webinar is a collaboration between the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in observance of [Children's Mental Health Awareness Day](#) on May 7th.

Takeaways:

- Understand the psychiatric consultation model at the clinical level, including the types of issues pediatricians consult on and its practical use in providing quality care
- Recognize the structure of the consultation model, how it is implemented, funded, and operates at the state or regional level (utilized in over 20 states)
- Identify the common components of psychiatric consultation programs across the country and learn about key contacts as well as TA resources

BHACA: Choosing a Certified Electronic Health Record System

- ***Comments due May 29th re. Stage 3 of Meaningful Use.*** Review the proposed rulemaking on **Stage 3**. Submit public comments electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>.
- ***Comments due May 29th re. the standards for EHR certification for 2015.*** Review the proposed rule here: **Review the 2015 Edition Proposed Rule [PDF – 2.4 MB]**. Submit comments via [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).
- ***Comments due June 15th regarding modifications to Meaningful Use.*** **Modification to Meaningful Use in 2015-2017 NPRM** – Proposes revised requirements for eligible professionals, eligible hospitals, and critical access hospitals participating in the EHR Incentive Programs in years 2015 through 2017. Submit comments via

[regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

- ***Grief in EHR Implementation:*** Tragically, a recent peer-reviewed article (which was not *The Onion*) recommends applying “Kübler-Ross's five stages of grief model” to better accommodate staff’s sense of “loss” and “grief” throughout the EHR adoption process: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/enhanced/doi/10.1111/1475-6773.12227/>.

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

- ***TOMORROW: HHSC Houston Meeting—Open to the Public: HHSC Regional Advisory Committee Meeting***
Focus: Medicaid and CHIP
Agenda items: Update on dual demonstration project, update on Community First Choice, update on the 1115 Transformation Waiver, update on Hospital-based Presumptive Eligibility, Presentation on (1) Growing Health Texas, (2) Texas Benefits Smartphone App, (3) New Self-Service Feature: Paperless Option.
Date & Time: Thursday, April 30th, starting at 10am CDT
Location: Houston Food Bank (535 Portwall St., Houston, TX 77029)
Registration: None needed. “This meeting is open to the public. No reservations are required and there is no cost to attend this meeting.”
- ***According to a recent email from HHSC, an estimated 5,995 Harris County residents have been passively enrolled in the dual demonstration pilot as of this April (clients who are dual-eligible for Medicare and Medicaid coverage).*** Harris County carriers include Amerigroup, Molina, and United. Behavioral health provider FAQs (such as how to verify client eligibility, etc.) are online here: <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/managed-care/dual-eligible/dual-demonstration-faqs.pdf>.
- ***The American Psychiatric Association has a FREE online course available regarding “Transitioning to DSM-5 and ICD-10-CM.”*** To learn more about the course offering, please click here: http://www.apaeducation.org/ihtml/application/student/catalog_description_init.ihtml?course_id=17941. To enroll, scroll down on this page and click on “NEW! DSM-5: What You Need to Know”: <http://www.apaeducation.org/ihtml/application/student/interface.apa/index.htm>.
- ***Comments due June 9th re: application of MHPAEA to Medicaid and CHIP.*** The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) regarding application of parity under the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) to Medicaid and CHIP. Among the issues on which CMS is particularly interested in receiving commentary is the *exclusion of long-term care services for mental health and substance use, based on the definition of*

medical/surgical benefits which explicitly excludes long-term care services. To read the NPRM and comment, [click here](#). When commenting, refer to file code CMS-2333-P; the deadline for comment is June 9. To view an archived webcast providing an overview of the NPRM, [click here](#).

- **Webinar—Provider Payment Reform—Unpacking the Concepts**

Date & Time: Friday, May 1, 2015, 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Central time

To Register: [Click here](#)

Presenters: Lynn Quincy, director, Health Care Value Hub. Doug Emery, program implementation leader, Health Care Incentives Improvement Institute (HCI3). Brian Rosman, research director, Health Care for All (Massachusetts).

Description: ***Accountable Care Organizations, Patient Centered Medical Homes, shared savings, episode-based payment...*** How to make sense of it all? And what's best for consumers? This free Hub webinar is for consumer advocates who want an easy explanation of these payment reform strategies and a guide to the key consumer considerations. Informal Hub polling shows this is a key topic that advocates could use help with. This is the first of our series of free monthly webinars on the hot topics related to finding ways to decrease health care costs, increase quality—in short, pursuing better value in our health care system. **While targeted to consumer advocates, this webinar may also be good for providers (which we realize are also often consumer advocates) to review the foundations of payment reform.**

BHACA: Outcome-Based Evaluation

- ***The Medicare Learning Network hosts a call on “Medicare Acute Care Quality and Reporting Programs” on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm CDT. To register:***
<http://www.eventsvc.com/blhtechnologies/register/2784bf7e-8837-41c2-9ea3-5c90606doc7c>.
- ***Resources for Getting Started on Quality Improvement Efforts*** – Are you interested in learning more about and getting started on formal quality improvement efforts? The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) has put together a “Getting Started” page “designed to introduce anyone, at any level, to the fundamentals of IHI’s approach to improvement.” To get started, [click here](#).
- ***Rapid-Cycle Evaluation Video Clip*** – *From IHI:* “In this four-minute video, IHI Senior Scientist Gareth Parry describes IHI’s approach to results-focused projects that asks teams to describe five core components: goals (aim statement), content theory (driver diagram, change package), execution theory (logic model), data measurement and learning plan, and dissemination plan. Then, rapid-cycle evaluation every few months as the project progresses helps teams assess their work in these areas in an ongoing way, to harvest the learning and identify necessary adjustments.” To view the

video clip, [click here](#).

- ***The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has published a new report on barriers to and uses of health data, mapping the tensions between protecting client confidentiality and harnessing data to improve individual and community health:***

<http://www.rwjf.org/content/dam/farm/reports/reports/2015/rwjf418628>.

BHACA: Additional Items of General Interest

- ***The federal government has officially warned Texas that failure to expand Medicaid will negatively impact the likelihood of the renewal of 1115 Transformation Waiver monies:*** <http://blog.chron.com/kuffsworld/2015/04/no-seriously-expand-medicaid-or-else/>.

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.