

Dear BHACA Community,

BHACA Blast #48 Headlines:

- Elizabeth Reed, Program Manager with the BHACA Initiative, is wrapping up her last week working on the project, with a last day of this Friday, October 30th. We thank Elizabeth for the past 21 months of her demonstrated passion for and commitment to the BHACA Initiative, and we congratulate Elizabeth and wish her well in the new position she has accepted as Director, Managed Care, with The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD (formerly: MHMRA of Harris County), where she begins work this coming Monday, November 2nd. NBHP is in the process of hiring a new Program Manager, and in the meantime our biweekly email blast resources and behavioral health provider training opportunities are scheduled to run uninterrupted. In Elizabeth's words, "I thank the BHACA team, the Network of Behavioral Health Providers, the NBHP member executive leadership, Mental Health America of Greater Houston, and everyone in the BHACA community (you!) for what has been *the joy of my life to date*: to serve the Houston community alongside so many talented and committed professionals who are fighting for the wholeness, fulfillment, and wellbeing of clients and community. I look forward to crossing paths with you soon as we all continue to work toward such a worthy shared mission and goal. I'm hugely indebted to every BHACA event speaker, to NBHP and MHA-Houston leadership and staff, especially Marion and Alejandra, and to this position for so much education and inspiration. Thank you."

The BHACA Team

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NBHP website – www.nbhp.org

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BHACA: Integrated Health Care (IHC)

- ***Congratulations to Texas! Texas is one of 24 states that have received planning grants for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) from the Department of Health and Human Services.*** This puts us in the running to be one of eight states that will receive demonstration grants after the planning period. The planning period will run until October 2016, and the demonstration grants will be announced in late 2016. The 2-year demonstration program will begin in January 2017. CCBHCs will provide integrated care for individuals with mental health and substance use disorders who are covered by Medicaid or CHIP and will be paid through a prospective payment system. To read the planning grant announcement and learn more about CCBHCs, please [click here](#).

- Facebook Chat: Integration of Mental and Behavioral Health and Primary Care**
Date & Time: Thursday, October 29, 7:00 PM Central time
Description: Join this Facebook chat hosted by the **National Health Service Corps** for an interactive discussion on integrating mental and behavioral health and primary care. (Here's to social media providing an additional platform to spread the word about IHC!)
For More Information: [Click here](#)
- Webinar – Common Myths, Misconceptions and Mistakes Regarding the PCBH Model**
Date & Time: Wednesday, November 18, 11:00 AM Central time
To Register: [Click here](#)
Organizer: Collaborative Family Healthcare Association
Speaker: Jeff Reiter, PhD, ABPP, is co-author (with Patricia Robinson, PhD) of a leading book on primary care integration, *Behavioral Consultation and Primary Care: A Guide to Integrating Services*. The 2nd edition is due out in October, 2015. He is currently the Lead Psychologist for Swedish Medical Group, in Seattle, where he is helping roll out a new primary care behavioral health service. Previously, he led the Behavioral Health Consultation service for HealthPoint, the largest community health organization in King County (Seattle).
Description: The Primary Care Behavioral Health (PCBH) model is often referenced in the literature and now widely used by healthcare organizations around the country. Yet, there appears to be great variation in how the model is defined, conceptualized, and applied. In this webinar, one of the experts most associated with the PCBH model gives his take on what the model is all about. After first outlining a basic conceptualization of the model, he will then discuss what he perceives to be common misunderstandings about it. This webinar is suitable for those with any level of understanding of the PCBH model.
- Resources from Collaborative Family Healthcare Association (CFHA) 2015 Conference Now Available Online** – Earlier this month, BHACA staff members Elizabeth Reed and Alejandra Posada, along with Shannon Evans, Manager of Health Systems Strategy Operations at Harris Health System, presented at CFHA's annual conference. Slides and handouts from their presentation and the *numerous* other presentations at the conference are now available on CFHA's website. The slides and handouts will be freely available until December 31, after which time they will be accessible only to CFHA members. To view, please [click here](#).
- Serving Veterans: A Resource Guide** – The SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions (CIHS) developed this guide for primary and behavioral healthcare professionals serving veterans and their families. To view the guide, please [click here](#).
- Resources on Medications for Opioid Use Disorders** – Earlier this year, the **American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)** developed a National Practice Guideline for the Use of Medications in the Treatment of Addiction Involving Opioid Use, in order to provide information on evidence-based treatment of opioid use

disorder. More information, including the full Practice Guideline, is available on ASAM's website [here](#). Among the tools made available by ASAM are a pocket guide and an app for quick reference. For the pocket guide and the app, please [click here](#). In addition, the **American Medical Association (AMA)** has created a website dedicated to physician training surrounding opioids; to access it, please [click here](#).

- **October Issue of Collaborations** – The latest edition of the AIMS Center's online newsletter, *Collaborations*, is available [here](#).

BHACA: Choosing a Certified Electronic Health Record System

- **Webinar Wednesday Series – SBIRT and EHRs - What's Your Take?**
Organizer: The Institute for Research, Education & Training in Addictions
 - **SBIRT and The Electronic Health Record**
Date & Time: Wednesday, November 4, 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM Central time
Presenter: Tom McLellan
 - **What's Your Take on EHRs and SBIRT?**
Date & Time: Wednesday, December 2, 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM Central time
Presenter: John McAteer
 - **My Take on EHRs and SBIRT**
Date & Time: Wednesday, January 6, 2016, 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM Central time
Presenter: Jim Winkle**To Register:** [Click here](#)

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

- ***Congratulations, Texas! Texas is one of twenty-four states that have applied for and been awarded one-year planning grants for the creation of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs).*** The grants were awarded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), in conjunction with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Assistant Secretary of Planning and Evaluation (ASPE). “The planning grants are part of a comprehensive effort to integrate behavioral health with physical health care, utilize evidence-based practices on a more consistent basis, and improve access to high quality care. The planning grants will be used to support states to certify community behavioral health clinics, solicit input from stakeholders, establish prospective payment systems for demonstration reimbursable services, and prepare an application to participate in the demonstration program.” Essentially, CCBHCs will be the behavioral health equivalent of federally qualified health centers (FQHCs). Read more: [click here](#).
- ***The Health Care Payment Learning & Action Network (HCPLAN), a multi-stakeholder collaborative, has released a white paper regarding reducing barriers and accelerating adoption of alternative payment model (APM) frameworks. The HCPLAN White Paper is open for public***

comment now through November 20, 2015. “To achieve the goal of better care, smarter spending, and healthier people, the U.S. health care system must substantially reform its payment structure to incentivize quality, health outcomes and value over volume...a fundamental change in how health care is organized and delivered... The Health Care Payment Learning and Action Network (LAN) was established as a collaborative network of public and private stakeholders, including health plans, providers, patients, employers, consumers, states, federal agencies, and other partners within the health care ecosystem... the LAN can help to reduce barriers and accelerate adoption of alternative payment models (APMs).” **Read the White Paper here:** <https://publish.mitre.org/hcplan/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2015/10/2015-10-22-APM-Framework-White-Paper-Public-Release-Draft-FPO.pdf>. **Submit comment here:** <https://publish.mitre.org/hcplan/>.

- ***CMS Open Comment Period Through November 17th That Will Reshape Medicare Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS), such as the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS).*** Comments are accepted re. Section 101 of Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA), which includes the following:
 - Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) methodology
 - updates to the Physician Fee Schedule (PFS)
 - higher update rate for “qualifying participants in Alternative Payment Models (APMs)” beginning in 2026
 - new Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) for eligible professionals (EPs)
 - sunsets payment adjustments under the current Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS)
 - sunsets the Value-Based Payment Modifier (VM)
 - sunsets the Medicare Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Program
 - consolidates aspects of pre-existing Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) (listed above) into new MIPS
 - promotes the development of APMs by providing incentive payments for certain EPs who participate in APMs and by encouraging the creation of additional Physician-Focused Payment Models (PFPMs)
 - Submit a comment here:
<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/10/01/2015-24906/request-for-information-regarding-implementation-of-the-merit-based-incentive-payment-system#open-comment>

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.