



Network of Behavioral Health Providers

Network of Behavioral Health Providers Behavioral Health Blast #14

Happy [National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month!](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

NBHP Annual Meeting: Being a Behavioral Health Provider in an Uncertain World

Speaker: Sandra Lopez, LCSW, ACSW

Location: University of St. Thomas (Scanlan Hall)

Date & Time: Wednesday, September 13, 2017, 4:00pm to 6:30pm

CEU Credit: 1 hour of CEUs available for psychologists, social workers, LMFTs, LPCs, and LCDCs

The NBHP Team

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Clinical Practice

- ***Webinar - Stepping Up the Right Way: Best Practices in the Treatment of Persons with Serious Mental Illness Who Have Contact with the Criminal Justice System***
Date & Time: Wednesday July 19, 1:00 PM Central time
To Register: [Click here](#)
Organizer: National Council for Behavioral Health
Description: Keeping people living with serious mental illness out of criminal justice settings is a goal shared by many, yet our current clinical approaches and strategies don't seem to be working. Too many people with serious mental illness continue to cycle in and out of jail and treatment. Effective clinical interventions with this population require proper assessment that distinguishes between criminogenic and psychiatric illness and provides the appropriate level of support based on level of risk for reoffending. This webinar will provide an overview of best practices and provide Community-based Behavioral Health Organizations with strategies for implementing these approaches.
- ***Webinar - NOW What're We Supposed to Do? Evidence-Based Practices for Medication-Assisted Treatment***
Date & Time: Wednesday July 26, 2:00 PM Central time
To Register: [Click here](#)
Organizer: The Association for Addiction Professionals

Description: With the current opioid overdose epidemic in full flood, Medication-Assisted Treatment is on the horizon of every treatment provider. However, opioid maintenance therapy with medications such as naltrexone, Subutex and methadone challenge both the treatment philosophy and delivery systems of many programs. This webinar will examine the philosophy, research, medications, and evidence-based practices for effective MAT.

EHRs, Security, and IT

- ***Messaging often fails to meet HIPAA requirements:*** Using a smartphone to send a quick text message or e-mail has become second nature to most of us. But some healthcare providers take advantage of that convenience to communicate with colleagues and patients, not realizing that they could be violating HIPAA regulations by sending protected health information (PHI). Consultants and attorneys who work with providers on HIPAA compliance say texting PHI is a fairly common problem. SMS text services and Apple's iMessage do not meet HIPAA requirements that insist providers maintain the confidentiality, integrity and availability of PHI. To read more of this Behavioral Healthcare Executive article, please [click here](#).
- ***Legislators float 'common sense' solution to ease EHR meaningful use burden:*** U.S. Representatives introduced bipartisan legislation to ease the burden that the meaningful use EHR incentive program puts on healthcare providers. The bill, H.R 3120, introduced by Texas Republican Rep. Michael Burgess, MD, is short on paper but sweeping in its intent. Simply put: The proposed legislation strikes sentences from the HITECH Act requiring the HHS Secretary, now Tom Price, MD, to make meaningful use measures increasingly stringent. To read more of this Healthcare IT News article, please [click here](#).

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

- ***Webinar - Why Your Documentation is Reducing Your Revenue***
Date & Time: Thursday July 20, 12:00 PM Central time
To Register: [Click here](#)
Organizer: Behavioral Healthcare Executive
Description: When private insurance payers review medical records, they are looking for the documentation to tell the patient's story, reveal the complexities of their case, and reflect the care the client received. Unfortunately, behavioral healthcare treatment center owners often fall short of providing the necessary documentation which leads to a high volume of medical record reviews, a series of audits and ultimately a reduction in overall revenue growth. A new approach to developing sufficient and consistent clinical documentation is needed. Join this webinar to hear Dr. Lilliam Rodriguez as she provides clinical documentation

improvement protocols that will not only streamline a provider's clinical documentation process but will also provide a consistent third party insurance payer reimbursement cash flow.

- ***Risk adjustment and reinsurance are working as intended, says CMS:*** The Affordable Care Act's risk adjustment and reinsurance programs are effectively compensating health plans that enroll higher-risk patients, according to a new report from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The findings run counter to the notion that the individual health insurance market is crumbling. CMS found that the transitional reinsurance program and the permanent risk adjustment program are "working as intended," protecting insurers against adverse selection within a state market and supporting them in offering a variety of different products. To read more of this Healthcare Finance article, please [click here](#).

Outcome-Based Evaluation

- ***Webinar - Quality Payment Program Year 2: An Overview of the Proposed Rule***
Date & Time: Friday July 14, 12:00 PM Central time
To Register: [Click here](#)
Organizer: HIMSS
Description: The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has released the proposed rule for year two of the Quality Payment Program (QPP) as part of the regulatory requirements under the Medicare and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA). The proposed QPP rule supports eligible clinicians in improving the health of their patients and increasing care efficiency. It emphasizes high-value care and patient outcomes while minimizing burden on eligible clinicians. The Program is also designed to be flexible, transparent, and structured to improve over time with input from clinicians, patients, and other stakeholders. Are there changes from the first year? What is in year two? What else do you need to know? These questions along with many others will be answered during this webinar in which HIMSS experts offer an overview with this new proposed rule.

Public Policy/Advocacy

- ***Senate Bill Aims to Bolster Addictions Treatment Workforce:*** A new bipartisan bill introduced in the Senate with the strong support and advocacy of the National Council would help to bolster the addictions treatment workforce by extending scholarships and student loan repayment opportunities to qualifying providers working in certain addiction settings. The Strengthening the Addiction Treatment Workforce Act (S.1453) would add addictions treatment facilities to the National Health Service Corps' list of eligible sites for loan forgiveness, providing an incentive to providers who seek jobs at these facilities in underserved communities. To read more of this National Council for Behavioral Health article, please [click here](#).

The nonprofit Network of Behavioral Health Providers (NBHP) consists of mental health and substance use providers in the greater Houston area. NBHP provides a forum for the behavioral health leaders in the community to work together on issues of common concern. Working on its own and in partnership with other entities at both the local and state levels, the Network has become a strong voice on behalf of behavioral health service providers and the individuals they serve. To learn more, visit our website at nbhp.org.