



CBHS IPA Newsletter

December 24th, 2019

General Edition



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CBHS IPA has joined LINKEDIN! You can find and follow us at:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/coordinated-behavioral-health-services-ipa-llc/>

CBHS will launch its redesigned website this week!

Be sure to check it out at CBHSINC.Org.

We are hoping to make this a monthly newsletter coming out around the middle of each month. That is an aspiration. Please don't hold us to an exact date.

In the News:



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By Richard Tuten, Esq., CEO of CBHS IPA.

FCC Approves New Three-Digit Number, 988, as US Suicide Prevention Hotline:

When the months-long process is completed, U.S. residents will be able to call 988 for help in a mental health emergency. Read more [here](#).

Judge Denies Hospitals' Request to Strike Down CMS Site-Neutral Policy:

For years hospitals have enjoyed an enhanced payment schedule for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries by their employed physicians (and others) versus the rates paid to non-hospital employee providers. Under the proposed CMS site neutrality rule, this enhanced payment schedule will be eliminated, evening the field.

The MEDPAC (Medicare Payment Advisory Commission) has been recommending this action for years. The American Hospital Association (AHA) has been successful in fighting it until now. CMS has baked the neutrality into its proposed 2020 fee schedules thereby eliminating the AHA's primary argument against site-neutrality.

Why does this matter? Read more [here](#).

Hackensack Meridian Paid Ransom for Cyberattack that Shut Down Computer Network:

Hackensack (N.J.) Meridian Health on Dec. 13 said it paid an undisclosed amount in ransom to stop a cyber-attack that had caused a two-day shutdown of its computer network last week, according to [Asbury Park Press](#).

The ransomware attack [forced](#) the health system to turn to paper records as well as reschedule a limited number of non-emergency procedures from Dec. 4-6. Upon discovering the cyber-security incident, Hackensack Meridian Health notified the FBI, law enforcement and regulatory authorities to investigate. Read more [here](#).

Express Scripts Selects First Crop of Tech Tools to Include on New Digital Health Formulary:

Express scripts has assembled a curated list of tools that it will make available to its contracted payors for their beneficiaries to use. The tools include apps focused on diabetes, hypertension, mental health and asthma/COPD. Read more [here](#).

CMS Approves Medicaid Work Requirement Waiver for South Carolina:

South Carolina joins 9 other states in receiving federal approval to impose work requirements on Medicaid beneficiaries. It is the first non- expansion state to do so. Several of the states have had their programs rejected by the courts for various reasons. None of the reasons seem to relate to the laws' inaction on making work opportunities available to the targeted population. Read more [here](#).

2020 Medicaid Outlook:

With Medicaid budget cap being exceeded again in 2019, the specter of a significant decrease in funding is looming large. Just by way of comparison between New York (an ACA Medicaid Expansion State) and Florida (a non-expansion state), here is a quick review:

	New York		Florida	
2019 Population	19,491,339	1	21,646,155	2
2020 Population	19,440,469	1	21,526,400	3
2019 Medicaid Enrollees	4,227,550	4	3,801,309	5
% Population	21.7%		17.6%	
2019 ACA Enrollees	271,873	6	1,783,304	6
% Population	1.4%		8.2%	
2019 Medicaid <u>State</u> Budget	24,000,000,000		28,114,600,000	
\$\$ / Resident	1,231		1,299	
\$\$ / Enrollee	5,677		7,396	

1 <http://worldpopulationreview.com/states/new-york-population/>

2 https://fdotwww.blob.core.windows.net/sitefinity/docs/default-source/planning/demographic/2020-2045projections.pdf?sfvrsn=6aafe7c3_8

3 <http://worldpopulationreview.com/states/florida-population/>

4 https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/health_care/medicaid/eligible_expenditures/

5 https://ahca.myflorida.com/medicaid/Finance/data_analytics/enrollment_report/index.shtml

6 <https://www.statista.com/statistics/453371/signup-numbers-during-open-enrollment-us-obamacare-by-state/>



CBHS to Launch E-Referrals Systems for Its Partners in 2020

By Marisa Barbieri, Competitive Solutions

CBHS, with the help of Competitive Solutions and the Chief Solutions Architect, Marisa Barbieri is developing a referral management tool tailored to the needs of the IPA. The tool will be a first of its kind, allowing for referrals to flow easily and be tracked effortlessly. Strong access and auditing methods as well as strict security for the PHI will be employed to keep any PHI safe and secure. The platform is designed with several new innovative technologies and will provide both our members and partners with the convenience and operational efficiencies they are looking for to facilitate rapid response to referrals.

Chief Clinical Officer (CCO) Report:

CCO October Report



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By Mark Sasvary, CCO of CBHS IPA.

It's hard to believe we are at the end of 2019 and barreling ahead into 2020. We have accomplished so much in our work together this year and we are poised to do a lot of great things next year. CBHS was founded on the belief that we are stronger working together, and it is through working together that we will strengthen our agencies and improve the system of care in our region. As a result, our work together has gained us access to many new opportunities and we have already begun to see positive changes.

One area where we have seen many positive changes is our DSRIP supported promising practice - the Transition of Care Wellness Program (ToCW). CBHS would like to thank Westchester Medical Center (WMC) and our WMC partner hospitals, Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital and Bon Secours Hospital, as well as our clinical partners at Access: Supports for Living and Family Services, Inc. We would also like to thank our peer partners at People, USA and Independent Living, Inc. who were central to the success of this project. These past two years have yielded some vital and valuable insights and helped people transitioning from the hospital get connected to essential community services so that they didn't have to return to the Emergency Department or Inpatient Units. Though the ToCW ends on December 31st, 2019, we look forward to carrying on this important work and there will be more to come on our exciting next steps in 2020.

We made great progress in our partnership with Montefiore and affiliates by connecting dozens of people from primary care to behavioral health and other essential community services. In 2020 we will continue to expand our Care Connections program and we look to deepen our referral opportunities so clients can access mental health, substance use, and community-based services to address any need they may have. From depression to trauma, from housing to nutrition, from social isolation to education and vocation, we have services that can help people live the lives they want to live. In 2020 we will also continue to develop innovative technological solutions to help clients get referred to services, ensure providers get the information they need to coordinate care, accurately track our outcomes, and meaningfully represent the impact of our many services.

In 2020 we will continue to support agencies in getting clients assessed for HCBS and connected to the wide array of crucial services that are part of HCBS. By working closely together we have made progress on our outcomes and we look forward to making further advances in our goal to make these services easily accessible to the clients that we know could benefit from them. We look forward to working together in 2020 and continue making great things happen!

Quality & Oversight Committee:



By Mark Sasvary, CCO of CBHS IPA.

The CBHS Quality Oversight Committee (QOC) has accomplished a tremendous amount in 2019 as it prepares for the goals ahead in 2020. Its members work together in the QOC, the Steering Team, and the subcommittees as well as within their own agencies, as each member strives to help improve the quality of our services and to develop new programs and interventions. It is through our collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and insights that we have been able to achieve so much. The QOC has developed workflows for the three key areas of service: Clinical, Care Management, and Residential programs. Workflows for each service line include our top 3 metrics focus on diabetes screening for people with Schizophrenia and Bipolar disorder, the 7 day follow up after mental health hospitalization, and initiation of substance use treatment after diagnosis in the Emergency Department. The QOC will help our network implement these workflows across our network in 2020. We also developed Standards of Care which are poised to be approved by the CBHS board.

We are also proud to say that CBHS has initiated our Performance Enhancement Program or PEP. PEP will identify the strategies being used successfully by agencies to impact outcomes and share this knowledge with our network members. By doing so, we will raise the quality of performance across the CBHS network and improve care for all the people that we serve.

The CBHS QOC also continues to highlight our achievements through our collaborative efforts. One of many exciting examples of this is happening in Orange County. In December 2017, five Orange County agencies - Access, MHA Orange, HONOR, HVCS, and RSS - began to work together to coordinate various types of care management services at St. Luke's Hospital Emergency Department and Cornerstone eight hours a day, five days a week. These CBHS agencies in partnership with the hospital have worked hard to increase access to care management services and to enroll ED patients in various care management services while targeting a reduction of the number of avoidable ED visits and hospital admissions. Our agencies and hospital staff participate in weekly calls to review services and outcome. During that time the our agencies have learned to work in a hospital environment, the program now includes referrals from their medical units, and these CBHS agencies have collaborated with the hospital to improve the referral/tracking tools used by all staff. These agencies that are currently offering services to St. Luke's and in partnership with Cornerstone, are Access, MHA Orange, HVCS, HONOR, and RSS. CBHS thanks our agencies for all of their hard work and we hope that the QOC can help support collaborative projects like this and create new lasting partnerships in the future.

And, last but not least, in 2020, QOC will launch its Child & Youth Subcommittee, designed to focus on services for children and teens throughout our seven Counties. This committee will be led by Mr. Nolly Climes (RSS), and Ms. Himalya Pandya (Astor Children & Family Services.). Together, they will help support agencies providing Children & Youth services under the CBHS umbrella and develop new initiatives.

Thank you to all of our partners and affiliates in their work and efforts in making the mission of CBHS a reality. We look forward to 2020 knowing that by working together we will build a better system of care for the people we serve.

ODDS & ENDS:



Department of Health

COMPLIANCE PROGRAM SELF-ASSESSMENT FORM:

Are you "compliance ready?" The New York State Department of Health has launched a readiness assessment form for you and your agency to use! It will help you understand where you are at, where you need to go, and how (to get ready) to get there!

To access the Compliance Program Self-Assessment form, please click [here!](#)

SAVE THE DATE!



CBHS, IPA's Spring Symposium

Date: Thursday, March 26th, 2020

Location: Anthony's Pier, New Windsor, NY

In March 2020, CBHS will be hosting its next Symposium. Further details are pending. Please save the date.

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2019

CHANGE IN HOURS OF OPERATION



Open 7 days/week

Monday – Friday: 10 am to 6 pm *(Previously 11 am to 7 pm)*

Saturday & Sunday: 9 am to 5 pm

Two Locations

Union Street Community Counseling Center

16-24 Union Street, Middletown, NY 10940

Kaplan Family Counseling Center

21-23 Grand Street, Newburgh, NY 12550

For more information

1-888-750-2266

Need Some Cubicles?: CBHS is Renovating Its Offices and We Have Free for Pick Up Cubicles that Could Use a Good

Home!: If you are interested, please call us at 845-615-9312 for details re: pick-up.





CBHS BHCC PET(s) of the Month

Here are Zoe and Chloe Hoaas. They are 8 and 6 year old Maine Coon Cats. They support and inspire their mother - Access' Katariina Hoaas, after her long days. They are very talkative and use close to ten different vocalizations to communicate their needs and dreams. They both enjoy seafood and other kitty treats. They spend their days sleeping, eating, grooming, exercising and entertaining their family. Their mother suspects that they sleep at the dining room table during days as white hair can be found during dinner time.