



CBHS IPA Newsletter

July 19th, 2019

General Edition



Free stock photo via Shutterstock.com.

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

In the News:

State Shifted Medicaid Expense between Fiscal Years by Delaying Payments 3 Days:

NYS shifted \$1.7B in Medicaid spending from FY2018-2019 into FY2019-2020 by delaying Medicaid payments from the last week of March until the first week of April. This was prompted by the statutory cap on increases in year-over-year

Medicaid spending. The shift was NOT prompted by a shortage of cash. The state reports a surplus of \$12 billion for FY2018-19. Questions remain as to how the state will address this shift at the end of FY2019-20. Will it cut Medicaid rates? Shift payments into the next fiscal year? Ignore/amend the cap on spending increases?

Sources: <https://www.empirecenter.org/publications/cuomos-1-7b-medicaid-mulligan/>

UnitedHealth Needs to Shore up Mental Health Coverage, Plaintiffs Argue:

Plaintiffs in a class-action lawsuit are claiming that United Health Group should create new guidelines for covering BH treatment and evaluation and should use those new guidelines to re-evaluate previously denied claims.

The plaintiffs made this rebuttal following a decision in the Northern District of California that United Behavioral Health violated its responsibilities to its members by denying mental health and substance use treatment as a cost-savings measure.

Source: <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2019/07/11/plaintiffs-demand-unitedhealth-beef-up-mental-health-coverage>

Presidential Candidate Joe Biden Unveils his Expansion on the ACA:

Key take aways: 1) It would create a “Medicare-ish” public option; 2) Would create a premium-free Medicaid option for adults in non-expansion states; 3) Would increase tax credits for purchasing health insurance; 4) Prohibits “surprise billing” for out-of-network services provided at in-network facilities; 5) Medicare would be allowed to negotiate prices and terms with pharmaceutical companies; 6) Drug prices could not be increased any faster than the general inflation rate, and; 7) Repeal of the Hyde Amendment.

Source: <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/hospital-management-administration/biden-unveils-healthcare-plan-8-key-takeaways.html>

MVP to Cuts Ties with Beacon Health Options:

MVP has announced its intention to sever its relationship with Beacon and assume responsibilities for case management, utilization review, claims processing and network management internally. MVP will retain all providers which are providing services through the Beacon network.

<https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/MVP-ends-partnership-with-behavioral-health-14085772.php>

Chief Clinical Officer (CCO) Report:



By Mark Sasvary, CCO of CBHS IPA.

We've been busy here at CBHS!

Through our partnership with Hudson River HealthCare as CBHCare and as part of the level 2 VBP contract we have with MVP Health Care we are launching a new data analytic platform that will enhance our abilities to coordinate care, stratify risk, target interventions, and track our performance.

CBHS is working with Health Management Associates to build our interim CBHS data exchange platform. The interim CBHS data exchange platform will help increase our access to network-wide census and service utilization data that will ultimately be connected to the larger data analytic platform that CBHS is developing. And it will be cross walked with other data sources such as PSYCKES, the Health Information Exchanges, and MCO claims data.

CBHS has also been busy in its work with our partners at Montefiore, as we continue to engage with MHVC on an upcoming innovation pilot project. We are also taking steps forward on the NG ACO, including scheduling quality improvement meetings with key CBHS agencies and developing a proposal for integrated behavioral care at PCP sites. And, CBHS has made progress on the Small PCP project.

As the Transition of Care and Wellness Program moves forward into its second year, CBHS and its partners help hundreds of clients make a smooth transition from the inpatient mental health units into person-centered outpatient treatment and community supports and services as needed. We thank our partners in this project at PEOPLE, Inc., Independent Living, Family Services, Inc., MHA Westchester, and Access, as well as, our partners at Bon Secours and Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital for their continued support.

And lastly, the Quality Oversight Committee (QOC) continues to do vital work. This past month, we restructured the committee to be more streamlined and efficient. Our new Policies and Procedures were approved by the CBHS Board. We took a huge step towards finalizing our workflows targeting out "Top 3" metrics (Diabetes Screening for people with Schizophrenia or Bipolar Disorder using anti-psychotic medications, Follow-Up After Hospitalization for Mental Illness, and Engagement in Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse or Dependence Treatment). We also outlined our Performance

Enhancement Plan (PEP) and we will launch our first waves of dialogue meetings in the next few weeks. PEP meeting will be available to all members and affiliates.

CBHS Tech Topics:



By Nicole Willner, Director of Operations

Big things are happening here at CBHS! Information and Technology initiatives are picking up momentum and I am so excited to be part of it.

The **IT Committee** will be meeting this month. The following items are on the Agenda for discussion: BHCC Data Analytic Workplans, HCBS Infrastructure Grant, and specific policies related to Privacy & Security.

Here are some updates about our highest priority projects:

CBHS has completed meetings with all member agencies participating in the **Data Exchange**. Health Management Associates has started receiving information from the members and is in the process of aggregating the data.

CBHS and CBHCare are anticipating the **GARAGE** platform to “go live” on July 31, 2019!

CBHS continues to explore options for the implementation of a **Call Center**. This month CBHS has had discussions with several vendors. CBHS is continuing to explore all options in order to determine whether this is something that should be developed “in-house” or in conjunction with a Vendor.

CBHS met with **Informallogic** this month regarding updates to the web and social media platform.

Hope everyone is enjoying their summer!

ODDS & ENDS:

Save the Dates!



NY Medicaid Population Health Symposium:

Save the Date! November 18 – 19

Registration for the NY Medicaid Population Health Symposium at the Grand Hyatt New York is now open:

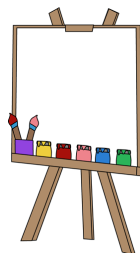
Source: <http://www.dsriplearning.com/index.html>

CBHS BHCC Pet of the Month Submissions!!!:



Please submit pix of your 4 legged (or gilled or feather or scaly) family members and nominate them for the CBHS Family Pet of the Month! Send all pix and nominations to Kimberly Hyacinthe at newsletter@cbhsinc.org.

Calling All CBHS Artists!!!:



CBHS has made 70 Hatfield Lane its headquarters but it does not exactly feel like home... just yet! We're all looking for artwork to decorate our office walls, but not just from anyone. CBHS is looking for art made for for our CBHS agencies' clients! We would love to decorate our walls with their creations to pay tribute to all of the wonderful work our agencies and their clients do.

Please let us know if you would like to donate or if CBHS can purchases any client art through your agencies by contacting via email to newsletter@cbhsinc.org.



CBHS BHCC PET of the Month

This is Hudson Willner! He is a Yellow Lab and is almost 2 years old. His birthday is August 27th!!! He lives in Sugar Loaf, NY. He loves people and playing ball. He is the sweetness boy ever!