



a·H·Informer

A news update from Adirondack Health Institute

January 10, 2019

News Headlines

Exploring a Collective Impact Approach to Address Population Health Priorities



AHI's [North Country Population Health Improvement Program \(NC PHIP\)](#) yesterday hosted a *Collective Impact* workshop delivered by the [Foundation Strategy Group](#), a national leader in the collective impact framework. Community-based collective impact initiatives are directed by collaborative processes that lead to a common agenda to address a specific population health priority. The NC PHIP will build upon this introduction with another expanded

workshop, to include additional partner participation, in the spring. Contact Tina Van Guilder at tvanguilder@ahihealth.org for more information.

Actively Engaged Data Collection Reminder

As a reminder, for DSRIP Years 4 and 5, AHI will only be collecting data for [Projects 3.a.i \(Integration of Primary Care and Behavioral Health Services\)](#) and [3.g.i \(Integration of Palliative Care into the Patient-Centered Medical Home Model\)](#). Data will be collected at the end of Q4 for both Q3 and Q4. A reminder email will be sent to project participants in March. If you have any questions, contact Jolene Munger at jmunger@ahihealth.org.

Partner Success Story

"Farmacy" Project to Expand



A small farm store located inside [Keeseville Pharmacy](#) is about to get a major boost, thanks to an Innovation Grant from the AHI PPS. "The Farmacy" is a partnership between [AdkAction](#), a local nonprofit organization that creates projects to address unmet needs, and the pharmacy. The daily market will offer local produce as a way to encourage good nutrition. The grant will support new equipment purchases for the site and help

fund an additional location. Cooking classes are also planned. "In addition to equipment and merchandising, AdkAction has hired a full-time staff person to oversee the expansion, and create a new toolkit for replication," shared Brittany Christenson, ADKAction's Executive Director.

[Read the full Press-Republican article.](#)

Client Success Story

AHI Helped Me Get Health Insurance Coverage for Surgery

By Brenda Burke, Malone, NY



I hadn't realize my Medicaid had ended. I needed surgery and my doctor wanted to schedule me, but he would not do it without insurance. I had been paying cash for my medical services and prescriptions. Thanks to AHI's Enrollment Assistance Services and Education (EASE) program's Enrollment Specialist, Alisa Preston, I was able to sign up for Medicaid. Not only was it retroactive to cover my bills from the previous couple of months, I was also able to call my doctor to have my surgery scheduled right away. It was a fast and easy process to enroll and I'm truly relieved and grateful!

Note: If you, or someone you know in Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Saratoga, Warren or Washington counties, lacks health insurance or needs to renew coverage, open enrollment runs through January 31. Call 1.866.872.3740, or visit [EASE Appointment Request](#), to set up a no-cost appointment to get help enrolling in a plan through the NY State of Health Marketplace.

Training Sessions, Meetings and Events



Behavioral Health Workforce Webinar Series

Four-part Webinar training series on Recruitment and Retention strategies and best practices for Behavioral Health Practitioners.

The *third of four* webinar trainings will be:

Addressing Behavioral Health Needs through Telehealth

Addressing behavioral health needs can be a challenge in any community, and the difficulties can be magnified in rural areas. Geographical limitations can affect a region's ability to recruit and retain a competent behavioral workforce. Join us to learn more about how two local communities are addressing behavioral health needs through telehealth. You will learn about their process with implementing telehealth, successes and challenges, issues with implementation, lessons learned, and more.

January 15, 2019

1:00pm - 2:00pm

To register, please visit:
[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/0b460ff027ae23b34ac87b605f06faf5](https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting?meetingRef=0b460ff027ae23b34ac87b605f06faf5)

***Please include credentials when registering*

1-646-558-8656

Meeting ID: 374-990-905

More information will be shared on the final session taking place on: February 12, 2019.



Presented by:

Katy Cook, Telehealth Project Manager, Adirondack Health Institute

Robert Kleppang, LMSW, ACSW, Director, Hamilton County Community Services

Annie McKinley, Assistant Director, Essex County Mental Health Services

Terri Morse, Director, Essex County Mental Health Services

This webinar will focus on the successes and challenges of implementing and utilizing telepsychiatry in the North Country. Panelists will discuss how telepsychiatry is working to serve North Country residents in rural areas, how these programs were deployed, and how they help to provide access to specialty care and be a creative solution to the behavioral health workforce shortage.

Please direct questions to the AHI Workforce Team,
DSRIPWorkforce@ahihealth.org

[Click here to register.](#)

Population Health Summit VI, February 28 in Albany

The *Population Health Summit VI: Becoming the Healthiest State for People of All Ages - Incorporating Health Across All Policies and Age-Friendly Principles into the Prevention Agenda 2019-2024*, is being held 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Thursday, February 28, at Empire State Plaza in Albany. The summit seeks to deepen and extend the understanding of ongoing efforts in New York State and nationally that demonstrate effective collaboration between public health, health care and other sectors to advance population health.

[Click here to register.](#)

Save the Date

Volume to Value:

Creative Funding Opportunities in
Payment Arrangements

Wednesday, March 20, 2019
The Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls, NY

*Please note that each organization may send a maximum of 3 attendees.



Other News

Burnout, Low Pay Take Toll on NY's Human Service Agencies

Annual turnover in the human service industry is greater than 30 percent. The average salary ranges from \$23,000 to \$30,000 per year. Burnout is common, fueled by difficulties caring for challenging populations such as the elderly, the addicted, those with physical and developmental disabilities, those struggling with mental illness, domestic violence survivors, and abused, neglected and orphaned children. AHI PPS partner [Northern Rivers Family of Services](#) and other non-profit organizations are calling on lawmakers to provide state-contracted human service providers with a 2.9 percent cost-of-living adjustment in the upcoming state budget. The sector hasn't had an increase in eight of the last 10 years.



[Read the full Times Union article.](#)

She Almost Went to Prison; A Judge Had a Better Idea

Something Judge Kelly McKeighan said stopped Ashley Livingston in her tracks. "He looked at me and said, 'I just wish you could see what other people see in you.'" Standing in front of the Washington County judge, Livingston had been content to go to prison for seven years on felony drug charges. As a junkie and criminal, she wondered what anyone could possibly see in her. If others believed it, couldn't she? Instead of prison, Judge McKeighan sent her to drug treatment. Fast-forward ahead five years and Livingston is now a Recovery Advocate at the [Hope](#)

[and Healing Community Recovery Center](#) in Hudson Falls, spending her days helping others realize their value.



[Read the full Times Union article.](#)

Share Your Updates

AHI partners in Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Saratoga, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington counties are encouraged to share updates with Phil Kahn at communications@ahihealth.org to be considered for inclusion in *AHI Informer*.

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