



a·H·Informer

A news update from Adirondack Health Institute

March 7, 2019

News Headlines

Patient Activation Measure (PAM®) Survey Update

AHI's contract with Insignia Health, the company that owns the rights to the Patient Activation Measure (PAM®) survey and Coaching for Activation (CFA®), and operates the Flourish® platform, will end on April 30, 2019. We are grateful to all of our partners who implemented PAM® and CFA®, as part of DSRIP Project 2.d.i: Patient Activation and Engagement, over the past three years.



We encourage organizations that have administered surveys to identify clients/patients who may be eligible to receive a subsequent PAM® survey to capture any change in their activation score before the platform is no longer accessible. Instructions for running reports for this purpose in Flourish® are available upon request and were shared directly with contacts in organizations that had taken part in PAM® and CFA® activities. As you may know, there is a DSRIP pay-for-performance measure associated with the change in PAM® cohort scores. Making a concerted effort to re-administer the PAM® survey to anyone eligible prior to April 30 can help contribute to the PPS's potential for meeting and attaining payment for that metric.

If you have concerns or questions about the Flourish® platform no longer being available to your organization after April 30, please reach out to Jessica Chanese at jchanese@ahihealth.org.

AHI's EASE Program, Partner Organizations Help Individuals Access Addiction and Mental Health Care Services

AHI's Enrollment Assistance Services and Education (EASE) program has joined forces with Behavioral Health Services North and Citizen Advocates, Inc. on an initiative to help individuals access addiction and mental health care services. The Community Health Access to Addiction and Mental Healthcare Project (CHAMP) serves Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Saratoga, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington counties.

"With the support of our partner agencies, BHSN and Citizen Advocates, we provide

assistance with the access-to-care scenarios listed on our promotional flyer (see below). Anyone in need of addiction or mental health care assistance can call our helpline at 888.614.5400," explained Joyce Porter, EASE Manager, AHI. "In addition, the EASE team provides free health insurance enrollment assistance. We encourage our partners to share with their clients and patients that they can schedule an in-person, one-on-one meeting with one of our Enrollment Specialists who will guide them through the signup process by calling 1.866.872.3740, or visiting our website to [request an appointment](#)."

Contact Porter at jporter@ahihealth.org, or Donna Gallup at dgallup@ahihealth.org, with any questions you may have about the CHAMP initiative.

Do You Need Help Accessing Addiction or Mental Health Care?

**Community Health Access to Addiction and
Mental Healthcare Project (CHAMP) can help you:**

- **KNOW** your insurance rights
- **FIGHT** insurance denials for mental health and addiction care
- **CHALLENGE** insurance barriers & discrimination
- **GET** the most from your coverage
- **RECEIVE** fair reimbursement
- **LEARN** about options for low-cost care for the uninsured
- **AND MUCH MORE!**

Services Are
Free & Confidential

So you can access treatment for mental health &
substance use disorders, including medication.

Call our Helpline (888) 614-5400

Helpline Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Community
Service
Society**
Fighting Poverty
Strengthening
New York

NYS Council for Community
Behavioral Healthcare

**LEGAL
ACTION
CENTER**

**NEW
YORK
STATE**

Office of
Mental Health

Office of Alcoholism and
Substance Abuse Services

AHI's Practice Innovation Solutions Program, Munger Featured in Hixny Annual Report

AHI's Practice Innovation Solutions program and Practice Transformation Program Manager Jolene Munger (pictured), are featured in the recently-published [Hixny](#) 2018 Annual Report.

The article, *System Transformers*, expounds on the processes associated with primary care practices becoming patient-centered medical homes (PCMH).

Addressing the challenges associated with the transformation process, Munger stated, "All of the programs are built on the goal of higher quality patient care at a lower cost. How can you be more effective and efficient with what you have, while providing a higher level of care, without placing an additional workload burden on providers and staff?" Munger then shared, "You have two groups of practices - the ones that have been on board with PCMH for a while and small practices that didn't change because they couldn't afford to do it on their own. Through the state program, they get technical assistance (from us) for free. We're reaching groups that otherwise would not be doing this."



If your practice would like to pursue NCQA NYS PCMH recognition, contact the Practice Innovation Solutions team at 833.242.0336, or innovate@ahihealth.org.

Reminder: AHI PPS Workforce Impact Analysis Due by Apr. 5



As was reported in the last edition of *AHI Informer*, all AHI PPS partner organizations are required to submit workforce impact information related to the hiring, retraining, and redeployment of staff for the October 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019 reporting period. Information was sent to partners on Thursday, February 21, and is due by Friday, April 5. Partners may complete the document using data available from October 1, 2018, to the present. Contact Kelly Owens at kowens@ahihealth.org with any questions and thank you for completing this important task.

Partner Success Story

What a Difference a Year Can Make

What a difference a year can make. Just ask local resident Patrick (pictured) how quickly you can turn your life around, especially if you have determination and a strong support system. "Last year at this time Patrick was in jail," shared Kim Cook, President and CEO of the Open Door Mission in Glens Falls. According to Cook, after his release he stayed at the mission's shelter, and then, with a strong desire to get his life back on track, found his own apartment. "Since then, Patrick's situation has taken a dramatic turn for the better," continued Cook. "I'm happy to report he's reconnected with his son, Kaiden. He also secured a job and has had multiple raises. He's doing great and we're so proud of him!"



Other News

NYS Medicaid Expands Coverage of Telehealth Services



The use of electronic information and communication technologies to deliver health care to patients at a distance has broadened its scope in the state. New York State Medicaid has expanded coverage of telehealth services to include additional originating and distant sites, telehealth applications (store-and-forward technology, and remote patient monitoring), and practitioner types. If you have any questions, contact Katy Cook, Project Manager, Telehealth, AHI, at kcook@ahihealth.org.

[Read the full report.](#)

New Federal Funding Opportunity Available for Small Rural Health Care Providers



The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has announced a new funding opportunity to improve patient care quality in rural regions. *The Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement*

Grant Program will support up to 32 public or private non-profit rural health care providers. HRSA expects to invest approximately \$6.4 million in the program. Objectives of the initiative include improved health outcomes, better patient engagement, and enhanced chronic disease management. Applications will be accepted through Monday, April 22.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Training Sessions, Meetings and Events

REGISTER NOW



Rural Communities Opioid Response Planning Program Needs Assessment Kick-off Meeting

**Wednesday, March 13, 2019, 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Crowne Plaza, 101 Olympic Drive, Lake Placid, NY**

For more information, contact Rebecca Evansky at revansky@ahihealth.org.



Join us as we bring together key collaborators to begin gathering information to build a foundation for sustained opioid use prevention, treatment and recovery services in the region.

[Click here to register.](#)

Telehealth Learning Collaborative Webinar, March 14



The North Country Telehealth Partnership's next Telehealth Learning Collaborative video conference is being held from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m., Thursday, March 14.

The webinar will focus on recent changes to NYS DOH and OMH telehealth/telemental health regulations, an overview of CMS changes, and updates from third-party payers relating to telehealth and telemedicine reimbursement. For more information, contact Katy Cook at kcook@ahihealth.org.

[Click here to register.](#)

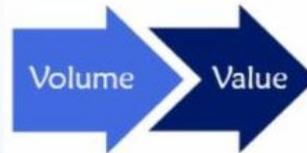
Registration ends next week!

Volume to Value

Creative Funding Opportunities in Payment Arrangements

March 20, 2019
9:30am - 3:00pm
Registration will begin at 8:30am

The Queensbury Hotel
88 Ridge Street • Glens Falls, NY
**Registration closes March 12th



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

Featuring:

- ◆ Keynote address by Damara Gutnick, MD, Medical Director, Montefiore Hudson Valley Collaborative PPS
- ◆ General session panel to discuss innovative contracting relationships
- ◆ Breakout Sessions for:
 - Behavioral Health / Primary Care Providers
 - Community Based Organizations

Click Here to Register or visit:
<https://vbp-paymentarrangements.eventbrite.com>

Sponsored by DSRIP PPS:
Adirondack Health Institute
Alliance for Better Health
Better Health for Northeast New York

Hotel rooms are available at a reduced price of \$84/night. Please call 518.792.1121 to make your reservation.

New York State aims to have 80-90% of Medicaid payments within a value based arrangement by 2020. These collaborative forums are aimed to inform and assist your organization during this transition.



Click here to register.



The Queensbury Hotel
March 25, 2019
Registration 5–6 p.m.
Program begins at 6 p.m.
Dinner Provided

Opiate Addiction: Best Practices for Care of Pregnant Women and their Infant

This seminar will bring together local and nationally-recognized experts to present information on screening, linkage to services and best practices for care during pregnancy and after birth. Participants will gain knowledge and understanding on the topics of Plan of Safe Care as a way of communicating maternal care, resources between multiple disciplines, and pain management for the pregnant woman with opioid use disorder during labor and postpartum. Dr. Grossman will discuss the Eat, Sleep, Console (ESC) assessment tool and non-pharmacological treatment for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome.

Presented by:

Dr. Matthew Grossman, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Yale School of Medicine
Michelle Eastman, NP, Glens Falls Hospital
Dr. Cassie Leonard, OB, Hudson Headwaters Health Network

To Register, visit: https://nas_march25_queensburyhotel.eventbrite.com

Sponsored by Adirondack Health Institute and the Warren-Washington County Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) Subcommittee, a collaborative team of healthcare providers and human service partners established by the Hometown vs. Heroin and Addiction Coalition of Warren and Washington Counties. Email for more information: Rebecca Evansky, revansky@ahihealth.org

[Click here to register.](#)

SAVE THE DATE

**ADK Wellness Connections Network Partner Webinar, April
10**

Save the date for the ADK Wellness Connections Network Partner Forum Webinar. The webinar, aimed at current network partners and those interested in joining, is taking place from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 10. Learn more about best practices, network updates, progress, and more. More details will soon be shared. In the interim, visit [ADK Wellness Connections](#) for network partner resources. If you have any questions, contact Melissa Davey at mdavey@ahihealth.org.



**ADK WELLNESS
CONNECTIONS**



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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STAY CONNECTED WITH US!

