



a·H·Informer

A news update from Adirondack Health Institute

April 1, 2021

News Headlines

Adirondacks ACO Membership Transferred to AHI



On March 1, the [University of Vermont Health Network-Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital](#) and [Hudson Headwaters Health Network](#) transferred their sole membership in [Adirondacks ACO](#) to Adirondack Health

Institute to create a more aligned governance model and establish one vehicle to advance population health initiatives in the Adirondack region.

Over the past several years, Adirondacks ACO has had a strong collaborative relationship with AHI, supporting population health efforts across the region. In early 2020 the two organizations began to look at operational efficiencies that would ultimately avoid duplication and more closely align regional initiatives.

"Two examples of these operational efficiencies are a combined virtual data team that brings expertise from both organizations together to analyze data to support improved performance, and a shared CEO providing consistent leadership for regional population health initiatives," explained Eric Burton, who serves in the dual roles.

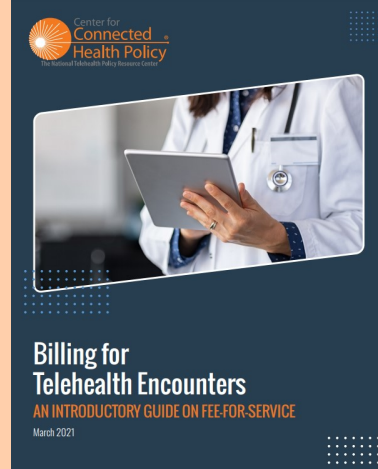
Overall governance for the ACO will be equally shared by the University of Vermont Health Network-Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital, Hudson Headwaters Health Network, [Glens Falls Hospital](#), and [Adirondack Health](#). AHI and the ACO will maintain their own boards focusing on their unique work in the region, with broad representation across participating provider organizations.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

CCHP Releases Updated Telehealth Billing Guide

The [Center for Connected Health Policy \(CCHP\)](#) has released a new updated telehealth billing guide, *Billing for Telehealth Encounters*, as a follow up to its 2020 guide. The updated guide provides a helpful tool for health care entities trying to navigate the complexities

of billing for telehealth and virtually-delivered services. Policy changes during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) have made telehealth billing rules more nuanced. The guide addresses whether or not there is reimbursement for telehealth both generally and/or during the PHE, as well as how to correctly bill for a telehealth encounter.



Click here to read the guide.

Training Sessions, Meetings, and Events



Faith Community Nurse Foundations Course



What: Using the Westberg Institute for Faith Community Nursing curriculum, this course prepares registered nurses for health ministry in a church congregation. Faith Community Nurses provide health education, advocate for clients connecting them with resources in the community, listen and provide support in times of illness. Their focus is on the whole person with special emphasis on the spiritual.

Who: This course is open to RNs or other persons interested in health ministry in a church or community. Mercy Care's Faith Community Nurse Program is a volunteer program. It offers the nurse an opportunity to choose the number of hours she/he is able to give. Mercy Care will provide the training and networking with other health ministers who are called to take on this role

Where: St. Marguerite D'Youville Academy, 315 Gates St, Ogdensburg

The classroom is large enough to provide for social distancing.

When:
Fridays, April 9, 16 & 30, 2021
1 PM - 5 PM
and
Saturdays, April 10, 17 & May 1, 2021
8:30 AM - 5 PM
Attendance at all 6 sessions is required.

How: There is no charge for this course but registration is required.

To register go to:
<https://forms.gle/peNM66cCWRD6f5gf8>
or print and complete the attached form and mail to:

Holly Huber
Mercy Care for the Adirondacks
185 Old Military Rd
Lake Placid, NY 12976

Or scan and email to:
hhuber@adkmercy.org

Call 518-523-5583 with questions.

The Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Course is supported by a grant from the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation.

Click here to register.

Share Your Updates

AHI partners in Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Saratoga, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington counties are encouraged to send news items to Phil Kahn at communications@ahihealth.org to be considered for inclusion in *AHI Informer*. This edition and past issues of the newsletter are available at <https://ahihealth.org/ahi->

[news/ahinformer/](#).

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