

FROM THE DESK OF PAMELA MATTEL

A LETTER FROM CBC'S NEW PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear, CBC Network & Partners—

As New York continues to bounce back from the greatest health catastrophe of our lifetime, solving our mental health crisis will require fresh commitment to collaboration and alignment between providers, payors, employers and policymakers alike—and we certainly have a long road ahead. However, there are promising signals from national and state leadership. In December, the US Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy [highlighted the urgent need to address the nation's youth mental health crisis](#). In January, Governor Kathy Hochul declared a \$10B plan to improve our health care systems, inclusive of a \$77M increase for community mental health. And [President Joe Biden's State of the Union address](#) laid out a vision for addressing the ailing American mental health care system. It was the first time I've heard any presidential administration make such a strong commitment to mental health and substance use disorder.

Coordinated Behavioral Care is at a moment in which individual and community drivers of health, equity and access are recognized as inextricably linked to whole health outcomes, in which New York State has communicated a commitment to fully integrating behavioral and social determinants of health care to the fabric of its Medicaid program and in which our workforce is recognized as essential to

building more equitable and healthy communities. I know that CBC's success and impact is a result of everything we've done collectively. Being part of the CBC team requires vision, a pioneering spirit and mission-driven care. The CBC network will continue to lift its collective voice to promote whole-person care and deliver on the common goal of improved health, wellness and recovery. We will scale evidence-based solutions and advance innovation. We will skillfully navigate the present and create stronger organizations to meet future challenges. Characteristics—centered on “who we are,” “how we operate,” and “how we grow”—will unlock new and improved models that prioritize flexibility and speed, as well as connection, purpose and organizational culture. We will create meaningful change to save lives, advance economic prosperity and prioritize health for future generations.

We have a lot of exciting, life-changing work to do together. I look forward to jointly challenging assumptions about care, realizing and implementing models that reflect innovation and human-centered design thinking and supporting the workforce. Together, we can deliver on the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's quadruple aim: greater quality, greater patient experience, greater financial models and greater joy in work.

Sincerely,
Pamela
Mattel



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NYS OMH & OASAS RELEASE GUIDANCE ON ENHANCED HCBS FUNDING

On February 18th, the [NYS Office of Mental Health](#) (OMH) and [Office of Addiction Services And Supports](#) (OASAS) released guidance (available [here](#)) on eligible activities for supplemental funding that will support the expansion and implementation of Adult Behavioral Health (BH) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) and Community-Oriented Recovery and Empowerment (CORE) services. This supplemental funding is available through the time-limited enhancement of the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP). Providers will receive funding through service rate increases that will be effective retroactive to October 1, 2021 and through March 31, 2023 (18-month funding period).

Designated providers may choose to use funding to support one or more of the following initiatives:

- Increasing program capacity by recruiting, hiring and training qualified staff and/or purchasing program materials;
- Investing in devices/hardware and software, including Electronic Health Record (EHR) and telehealth platform licensing fees/technical assistance;
- Creating marketing materials and implementing community education

efforts to develop an effective referral network; and

- Making one-time or initial investments in transportation and community connections.

Given the time-limited nature of the enhanced rates, providers are strongly encouraged not to use funding for ongoing salary or fringe benefit increases that cannot be supported beyond the funding period. Providers must complete an attestation form (available [here](#)) by March 31st in order to receive funds. Provider attestations may be submitted to OMH.Workforce@omh.ny.gov.

RFA UPDATE: SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC SERVICES FOR CHILDREN/YOUTH

Utilizing additional federal block grant funding received via the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021, NYS OMH is providing one-time funding of \$25K to OMH providers to create School-Based Mental Health Satellite Clinic locations in areas of New York that have been significantly impacted by rates of Covid-19, are identified as being high need (high rates of poverty, homelessness, food insecurity, etc.), and/or serving disenfranchised or marginalized populations. Specifically, these resources are intended to support children and youth returning to school in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic and increase mental health provider service access to in-person and telehealth services that divert youth from use higher level of

care and offer services when they are needed.

Eligible applicants for start-up funds of \$25K (per each new school-based satellite site) are current OMH-licensed clinic providers identified as operating in good standing, including:

- OMH-licensed Clinics serving children/adolescents to create a new school based mental health clinic satellite location(s) targeting high needs schools for children/youth identified as needing mental health treatment, and their families.
- OMH-licensed Clinics serving children/adolescents who have submitted a Prior Approval Review (PAR) satellite application or been recently issued a satellite clinic Operating Certificate (OC) in the last 180 days (since August 1, 2021) for a new school based mental health clinic satellite location(s) targeting high needs schools which opened/will be opened in the 2021-2022 school year.

The application deadline for this funding opportunity has been extended to April 1st. For more information about this request for applications or to submit an application, please visit the [NYS Contract Reporter](#).

NYS OMH RFP UPDATE: ADULT ACT TEAMS

On February 11th, NYS OMH released an updated Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development of 14 Adult Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams. The

Adult ACT teams will serve individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) who have not been successfully engaged by the traditional mental health treatment and rehabilitation system. OMH originally released this RFP in January but has since expanded the number of teams in NYC and updated the RFP to accordingly extend the application deadline.

Adult ACT teams provide 24/7 comprehensive treatment, support and rehabilitation services in the community or where the individual lives. OMH will provide start-up and ramp-up funding to support the development of the ACT teams, and teams will be funded on an ongoing basis through Medicaid and net deficit funding.

Eligible applicants are not-for-profit 501(c)(3) agencies that have experience providing mental health services to individuals with SMI through licensed OMH programs. The awarded applicant will be further subject to the submission and approval of a Prior Application Review (PAR) application to become a licensed ACT team and receive an official operating certificate.

The full RFP is available [here](#). Applications are due on April 13th.

NYS OMH & OASAS RFP UPDATE: INTENSIVE CRISIS STABILIZATION CENTERS

NYS OMH and OASAS have revised the timeline associated with their RFP for the

development of twelve new Intensive Crisis Stabilization Centers. OMH and OASAS are seeking development of three Centers within the NYC economic development region and nine Centers outside of NYC. These Crisis Stabilization Centers will be jointly certified by both Offices. Crisis Stabilization Centers are developed in collaboration with the communities they serve, including Local Mental Hygiene Directors, schools, community providers, law enforcement agencies and other identified programs to provide a comprehensive continuum of care for referrals and follow-up.

OMH and OASAS have assigned [Carol Swiderski](#) as Issuing Officer for this project. The Issuing Officer or a designee shall be the sole point of contact regarding the RFP from the date of issuance of the RFP until the issuance of the Notice of Conditional Award. To avoid being deemed non-responsive, an applicant is restricted from contacting any other personnel of OMH and OASAS regarding the RFP.

This RFP can be found on both the [OMH website](#) under Procurement Opportunities and the [OASAS website](#) under Procurement.

Responses to the RFP are now due June 9th. A Bidder's Conference will be held on March 23rd. Prospective Proposers' participation in this conference is highly encouraged but not mandatory. The purpose of the Bidder's Conference is to:

- Provide additional description of the project; and

- Explain the RFP process.

Join the Bidders' Conference meeting at 1:30pm on March 23rd [here](#).

SAMHSA NOFOs

Targeted Capacity Expansion—Special Projects

On February 3rd, the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for federal fiscal year 2022 Targeted Capacity Expansion: Special Projects (TCE) grants. This program supports the implementation of targeted strategies for the provision of substance use disorder (SUD) or co-occurring disorder (COD) harm reduction, treatment and/or recovery support services.

SAMHSA will award a total of \$8.3M across 22 awards over the three-year program. Contracts will last for up to three years, starting on September 30th.

Eligible applicants may be domestic public or private not-for-profit entities, including community- and faith-based organizations. Organizations may submit more than one application; however, a separate application is required for each proposed project. Organizations that received a grant under the FY 2021 TCE Special Projects funding opportunity are not eligible to be awarded this round.

The NOFO is available [here](#). Applications are due on April 4th.

Residential Treatment for Pregnant & Postpartum Women

On February 3rd, the SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Treatment also released a NOFO for fiscal year 2022 Residential Treatment for Pregnant and Postpartum Women Grants. This program supports the provision of comprehensive SUD treatment services, recovery support services and harm reduction interventions to pregnant and postpartum women across the continuum of specialty SUD residential and outpatient levels of care.

SAMHSA will award a total of up to \$10M in funding across 19 awards over the five-year program. Awarded applicants must use third-party reimbursement and other revenue realized from the provision of services to the extent possible. Eligible applicants are domestic public and private not-for-profit entities, including community- and faith-based organizations.

The NOFO is available [here](#). Applications are due on April 4th.

Medication-Assisted Treatment

On February 28th, the SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Treatment released a NOFO for funding to help increase the number of individuals with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) receiving medication and decrease illicit opioid use and prescription opioid misuse. Grant funding must be used to support direct services, including

providing medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for OUD, conducting screening and assessment for co-occurring substance use and mental disorders and providing harm reduction services.

SAMHSA will award a total of up to \$22.6M across 30 awards over the five-year program. Eligible applicants are domestic public or private not-for-profit entities.

The NOFO is available [here](#). Applications are due on April 29th.

NYS OASAS RFA: PAID PREVENTION INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

On March 2nd, NYS OASAS released a Request for Applications (RFA) for one-time funding to support prevention providers with the establishment of a paid internship position for up to 12 months. This program aims to provide staff support to prevention providers, attract diverse individuals into the prevention field and provide interns with job experience and an entry-level path towards a professional credential, such as a Certified Prevention Professional (CPP) or Certified Prevention Specialist (CPS).

OASAS will provide up to \$1M in total funding to support at least thirty internship positions. This funding is made available through supplemental funding allocated by the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act to

the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant program.

Eligible applicants are existing OASAS-funded prevention providers, including Prevention Resource Centers. Applicants may apply for up to \$21K to support the one-year paid internship position, which may include hourly wages, fringe, OTPS, supervisor stipend (up to \$2.2K) and agency administration costs.

The RFA is available [here](#). Applications are due on March 31st.

FUNDING FOR STIGMA REDUCTION PROJECTS

On March 3rd, NYS OMH announced the availability of up to \$105K in total grant funding for projects that help reduce the stigma associated with mental illness. Funding is available from the voluntary tax check-off program launched in 2016, which allows New York taxpayers to contribute to the “Mental Illness Anti-Stigma Fund” when filing their taxes.

OMH will award agencies with up to \$15K to support stigma reduction projects statewide. Project activities may include targeted messaging and advertising, production of printed materials, speakers, training, contact with people with lived experience and multimedia productions. Projects must address stigma and discrimination in one or more of the following:

- Educational institutions, including colleges and universities;

- Underserved populations;
- Housing;
- Workplace;
- Parents;
- Media (including social media); and
- Health care.

Eligible applicants must have at least one year of experience serving individuals with mental illness and be recognized for work with underserved, underrepresented and/or minority populations.

The OMH press release is available [here](#). Proposals may be submitted to [Carol Swiderski](#) through April 2nd. Projects must be completed between June 1, 2022 and May 31, 2023. Questions may be submitted to OMH Diversity & Inclusion Officer [Matthew Canuteson](#).

NYS OMH RFP: ENHANCED SCATTERED SITE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR YOUNG ADULTS w/SMI

On March 3rd, NYS OMH released an RFP for the development and operation of a 27-bed Enhanced Young Adult Scattered Site Supportive Housing program in NYC. The program will support young adults (ages 18-25) with SMI or co-occurring SMI and SUD.

The program will include both enhancements to current supportive housing services and new services that are important for young adults. The scattered site housing may be in any borough of NYC;

however, all 27 beds must be located in one borough. The Enhanced Young Adult Scattered Site Supportive Housing program is intended to help young adults with SMI:

- Transition from institutional settings, foster care, and homelessness;
- Improve access to behavioral health and community resources;
- Pursue vocational/educational goals; and
- Develop real-world skills that will support them on their path forward as independent adults.

Funding for Scattered Site Supportive Housing is a combination of client rent payments and OMH funding. OMH will award one applicant with annual funding per unit, plus additional funding to support enhanced services. Eligible applicants are not-for-profit 501(c)(3) agencies that currently operate scattered site supportive housing in NYC or Long Island.

The RFP is available [here](#). Applications are due on May 5th.

AFFINITY LEGACY COMMUNITY GRANTS

On February 15th, [Affinity Legacy, Inc.](#) announced the opening of its Community Grant Program, which will provide one-time grants of between \$25K and \$1M to community organizations operating in the downstate and Lower Hudson areas. Affinity previously operated a regional Medicaid managed care plan whose assets were purchased by [Molina Healthcare](#) in

2020. Affinity Legacy continues to operate to administer the accompanying charitable asset distribution.

Eligible applicants to the Community Grant Program must be not-for-profit 501(c) organizations that:

- Have purposes consistent with Affinity’s mission to “improve the health and well-being of the communities we serve;”
- Operate programs within the 10-county service area (NYC, Long Island, and Orange, Rockland and Westchester Counties); and
- Not have received funding from any other component of the Affinity charitable asset distribution.

Eligible projects should be in one of the following areas:

- Mental health programs for underserved communities;
- Food insecurity;
- Formerly incarcerated individuals’ re-entry into the community; and
- Consumer health education and workforce development, including training and skill development for health care workers.

The amount of grant awards will vary based on the strength and scale of the organization and its alignment with the program requirements. Awarded applicants will be expected to submit reports to Affinity six months and one year after grant receipt.

Letters of Intent (LOIs) are due by April 15th. Select applicants will be invited to submit a full application on June 15th. LOIs should include preliminary information about the organization, the objectives of the program/project to be funded, the target population, and the timeline for implementation.

Additional information on the grant program is available [here](#).

IN THE NEWS...

PRESIDENT BIDEN OUTLINES BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PRIORITIES IN STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

On March 1st, President Biden delivered his first State of the Union address, which mentioned several key health policy priorities. Chief among these is the enactment of a new major mental health initiative.

President Biden’s strategy includes proposals that will increase behavioral health provider capacity with:

- A proposed \$700M investment in training, scholarship and loan forgiveness programs;
- New pilot programs to train community health workers and other paraprofessionals;
- A universal certificate program for peer specialists;
- An expansion of and permanent authorization for the Certified

Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) program;

- An expansion of funding for 988 crisis lines; and
- An investment of \$5M into research for promising new treatment models.

Furthermore, the President hopes to expand and promote mental health parity by:

- Issuing new regulations and enhancing enforcement of current ones;
- Tightening network adequacy standards for behavioral health professionals; and
- Requiring insurers to cover three behavioral health visits per year without cost sharing.

Finally, President Biden plans to work with Congress on legislation to ensure coverage of virtual behavioral health services across health plans and to support telemedicine across state lines, simplify Medicaid reimbursement for school-based mental health professionals and test payment models to support behavioral health integration into whole-person care.

CBC looks forward to working together with government and network providers to implement the programs of tomorrow that will help President Biden realize this vision.

NYS OMH & OASAS ANNOUNCE IMPLEMENTATION OF CORE SERVICE ARRAY

On March 2nd, NYS OMH and OASAS issued notices in the State Register (available [here](#)) announcing the implementation of the new CORE service array.

Effective February 1st, providers currently designated to provide one or more of the BH HCBS transitioning to CORE will be automatically provisionally designated to provide those services until July 31st, after which such providers who meet the requirements for designation will be fully designated. Providers who are currently licensed, certified, or funded by OMH or OASAS may apply for a designation to provide CORE services. OMH intends to accept such applications through an online portal.

Questions may be submitted through April 15th to legal@oasas.ny.gov.

CMS APPROVES NYS 1115 WAIVER INTERIM EVALUATION REPORTS

On February 22nd, the [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services](#) (CMS) approved the NYS Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT)'s Interim Evaluation Report and the Children's Design Interim Evaluation Report. CMS determined that the reports are in alignment with the approved Evaluation Design and the requirements set forth in the Special Terms and Conditions (STCs) of New York's Section 1115 MRT waiver demonstration.

Both reports were independently conducted by the RAND Corporation. The

Children's Design report identified the facilitators of, and barriers to, the implementation of the Children's waiver demonstration and provided baseline metrics for children in Medicaid fee-for-service, managed care and Health Homes. The MRT report assessed the success of the Managed Long-Term Care (MLTC) program and the MLTC 12-month continuous eligibility policy.

The CMS approval letter is available [here](#) and the Interim Evaluations are available [here](#).

SAMHSA PUBLISHES NEW FACT SHEET: ALCOHOL USE AMONG GIRLS & YOUNG WOMEN

Data now show that girls and young women aged 12 to 20 are drinking more alcohol than their male counterparts. Accordingly, SAMHSA has authored a new fact sheet that puts this worrying trend into context and incorporates links to learn more about federal initiatives and resources that address underage drinking and alcohol use by young adults. View the "Alcohol Use Among Girls & Young Women" fact sheet [here](#).

CARF TRAINING: 2022 UPDATED OTP STANDARDS

At 10am on March 22nd, [CARF International](#) will host a training on CARF accreditation standards for opioid treatment programs (OTPs). CARF Accredited OTPs, SUD outpatient providers, OASAS, State and local agency

staff and interested payors are welcome to attend. The three-hour training will focus only on the sections of the CARF accreditation standards that have been updated and a review of frequently cited standards for opioid treatment programs. Note that the sections on person-centered plan and standards related to the assessment process are the same for Behavioral Health (Outpatient) and OTPs in the CARF manuals. Attendees will learn how these sections align with recent changes to the OASAS regulations.

Click [here](#) to register in advance, and list the name, title and e-mail address of all staff who will be attending. A Zoom link will be sent to all who register.

ADELPHI CENTER FOR NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The [Center for Nonprofit Leadership](#) at Adelphi University's "Leading in Community" program is now accepting applications. This is a leadership development program with a goal of broadening and strengthening the leadership pipeline for people of color and prepare them for nonprofit and community leadership in the Long Island, NYC and Hudson Valley regions. Participants receive a "Certificate in Organizational and Community Leadership" from Adelphi University upon completion of the eight-month program (April through February). Learn more and register [here](#).

Meanwhile, the Center's Nonprofit Executive Solutions Virtual Workshop Series covers essential and emerging leadership topics and delivers business solutions and skills for nonprofit organizations. Register for one or all of the workshops below by clicking [here](#).

1. "Supervision in the New Workplace: What to do differently now that so much has changed"—April 13th (9-10:30am).
2. "Common Legal Issues Facing Nonprofits"—May 11th (9-11am).
3. "Business Analytics for Nonprofits"—June 14th (9-10:30 am).

9-8-8: A NEW NUMBER FOR THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS HOTLINE IN NYS

988 is the new three-digit number that connects callers with behavioral health crisis counselors. Once it goes live on July 16th, callers who dial 988 will be connected to [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#) call centers. This easy-to-remember number will change the way we address behavioral health crises in New York. NYS OMH has created a monthly newsletter that will provide updates, education, and information on 988. To stay current on the development and implementation of 988 in New York, sign up for the newsletter [here](#) by simply sending the blank email message that opens upon clicking the link. The first newsletter is expected to be sent out at the end of March 2022.

CARE COORDINATION SERVICES

CBC HH NETWORK PROVIDER MEETING

On February 25th, CBC Health Home (HH) hosted its quarterly HH network provider meeting with close to 70 staff from 29 care management agencies (CMAs) in attendance. Agenda topics included a welcome and introduction by new CBC President & CEO Pam Mattel, an outline of advocacy efforts in the NYS FY 2022-23 Enacted Budget, a review of the most recent CBC HH population data and results from the AIDS Institute IPRO Audit. The meeting was recorded—stream the video and review the slide deck [here](#).

HH CARE MANAGEMENT BUDGET ADVOCACY LETTER CAMPAIGN

The [NY Health Home Coalition](#) has expanded its Legislative letter campaign to include the Executive chamber. Please use the links below to advocate for NYS Health Homes in the State Fiscal Year 2022-23 workforce funding initiatives and share widely across your networks. Complete the Legislative HHCM advocacy letter [here](#) and complete the Executive HHCM advocacy letter [here](#).

BUILDING A PERSON- CENTERED HHSC PLAN OF CARE TRAINING SERIES

The [NYS Department of Health](#) (DOH) has partnered with NYS OMH to provide a

new, online training series for Health Home Serving Children (HHSC) care managers and supervisors on “Building a Person-Centered Plan of Care: Supporting Quality Plan Development and Implementation.” [Click here](#) for more information on registration for this training series for HHSC care managers and supervisors, and contact CBC Director of Children Program Services [Patricia Lyons](#) with any questions.

HH PROGRAM ROLE TRANSITION IN UAS

On February 15th, the Uniform Assessment System (UAS)-NY issued a memorandum outlining changes to HH program CANS-NY roles, as well as new functionalities including a more streamlined case list that allows a case file search using only a Medicaid ID for members who actively enrolled in MAPP. UAS-NY switched all HH program users to new UAS Roles on February 23rd. Contact your Health Commerce System coordinator with any questions about this change.

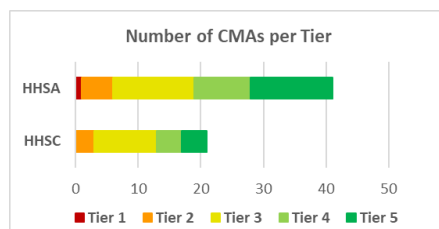
The release notes and associated training included required reading. Please note this new course will not be available to users until they transition to their new CANS-NY-HH role. Contact CBC Director of Children Program Services [Patricia Lyons](#) with any questions.

QUALITY PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT (QPM)

HH QMT/CQMT MEETING

On February 22nd, CBC’s Quality Performance Management department held the first Health Home Quality Management Team (QMT)/Children’s QMT meeting of the new year. CBC staff provided updates on CORE transition, the HHSC HCBS Capacity Tracker and the Q4 2021 Incident Review Committee. Discussion items included recent NYS DOH changes to the Health Home disenrollment policy, as well as several key internal reporting changes at CBC. Finally, QPM staff reviewed imminent changes to its monthly documentation reports with attendees.

CBC also discussed the Q4 2021 Performance Report and upcoming enhancements to the report. The graph below discloses HHSA and HHSC CMA performance by tier level as well as overall averages per program. CBC HH sets its network quality benchmark at Tier 4 (i.e. 80% or better overall performance). For HHSA, 22 of 41 individual CMAs have met or exceeded CBC’s Tier 4 benchmark, while 8 of 21 HHSC CMAs have achieved similarly.



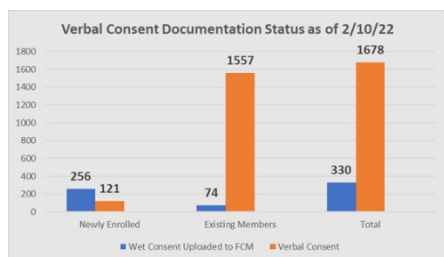
Upcoming enhancements to CMA Performance Reports include revised tier calculations that account for required DOH documentation, supplemental dashboards (e.g. incident reporting, gaps in care) and simplified visualizations of individual CMA report cards. Slides from this meeting have been added to Box. The next QMT/CQMT meeting will be held on April 12th from 10-11:30am.

COVID-19 HH OPERATIONS UPDATE: CONSENTS

In anticipation of CMS announcing the end of the federal public health emergency, NYS DOH has advised HH CMAs to return to obtaining wet/electronic signatures for program enrollment consents, as verbal consents for HH members will no longer be an option.

NYS DOH is providing CMAs a sixty-day grace period (tentatively no later than May 1st) to update operations to allow for wet/electronic consent as the only means of HH enrollment and to obtain wet/electronic consent for any members currently enrolled via verbal consent only. DOH reminds HH CMAs if wet/electronic consent cannot be obtained within sixty days of enrollment, the CMA should document the reason and engage members in discussions to whether they want to remain enrolled, thereby requiring a wet/electronic consent, or be disenrolled from the program. The only exception is the Adult Home Plus (AH+) program, which requires staff to notify the DOH via AHPlusProgram@health.ny.gov and await guidance prior to disenrollment.

As of February 10th, 1,678 members of the CBC HH have only consented to services verbally.



CBC HH will continue to track CMA verbal consents via its monthly documentation report (most recently issued on March 11th) to assist in identifying members with verbal consent and prioritize meeting with engaged members to obtain wet/electronic consent.

VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS: CONSENT TRAINING

On February 17th, CBC QPM hosted a training for HH care managers that reviewed NYS DOH consents completion procedure and best practices for engaging members in the consent process. Attendees were reminded that one key element of a completed and informed consent—in addition to the member/legal guardian’s signature and date—is a witness signature, which is usually the care manager’s initial/date for each consented participating provider. The training slides and video recording can be accessed in Box in the “Trainings” subfolder within “CBC General Information.”

IPA CLINICAL/QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

On February 3rd, the CBC IPA Clinical / Quality Improvement Committee (CQIC) met to review findings from individual data deep dive meetings completed with four IPA network provider agencies and members of the Clinical Integration Workgroup (CIW). The table below shows three insights gained and how they inform CQIC activities to support engagement in CBC IPA Performance Improvement.

Three Insights Shared at Data Deep Dives

1. Disaggregated data allow for greater nuanced appreciation of affected populations and areas to target for improvement.
2. QI initiatives are siloed across IPA network agencies and programs within agencies.
3. Accurate data is central to performance improvement.

Three Performance Improvement Recommendations for CQIC

1. Start small, testing incremental change as it relates to Performance Improvement initiatives/measures.
2. Leverage consistent agency participation in the CQIC to align and communicate QI Initiatives to CBC and program/agency staff.
3. Increase number of agencies contributing data regularly to CBC/IMSNY.

The meeting also hosted breakout sessions that focused on provider feedback related to diabetes metabolic monitoring and screening measures. Discussions included agencies’ resource allocation, barriers/gaps in care and recommendations for how CBC IPA can support agencies efforts to help members receive the right treatment at the right time. Overall feedback will be combined and shared with CQIC at the next meeting, which is scheduled to occur on April 7th at 9:30am.

IPA CLINICAL INTEGRATION WORKGROUP

The CBC IPA CIW met most recently on February 16th, as CBC completed four of the six data deep-dive meetings scheduled among volunteer members of the CIW. The purpose of the meetings is to increase collaboration and awareness of performance goals and align quality initiatives among network agencies within the CBC IPA. A preliminary SWOT analysis was conducted to inform organizational strategy and planning in anticipation of value-based payment arrangement with payers.

Data deep-dives with the two remaining agencies are scheduled to be held by the end of March. Upon the conclusion of these meetings, CBC will share additional findings and recommendations to the CIW and CQIC to further discuss how to move forward on IPA network-wide performance improvement initiatives.

OTHER IPA INITIATIVES

IPA CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES NEW CO-CHAIR, RELAUNCH

CBC IPA Children's Committee is delighted to announce Marie Nguyen, MSW as its new Co-Chair. Ms. Nguyen is Chief Program Officer at Association to Benefit Children (ABC) and has led educational, social service and programming for several nonprofit organizations in NYC. The Committee will reassemble on March 29th. Join us at 2pm [here](#). Please contact CBC Director of Children Program Services [Patricia Lyons](#) with any questions.

CONSUMER ADVISORY BOARD

The CBC IPA Consumer Advisory Board (CAB) is delighted to welcome a new member from [Goodwill NYNJ](#)'s Bronx Peer Advocacy Leadership (PAL) program. CAB's cross-section of volunteers from the CBC IPA network identify as consumers of behavioral health services and contribute their skills, insights and experiences at monthly online meetings. In turn, CBC uses CAB recommendations to improve care coordination practices and member-engaging supports. Meetings are co-facilitated by leadership from across CBC programs and departments.

The CAB welcomes suggestions of Peer staff and informed Health Home members to join these meetings. Contact CAB Chair [Robert Potter](#) for more information.

TRAINING INSTITUTE



SELF-CARE TRAINING SERIES

At the 2020 height of the global pandemic, SAMHSA recognized that frontline staff would need support to address their personal and professional experiences with Covid-19. [CBC Training Institute's](#) (TI) SAMHSA Covid-19 Emergency grant therefore continues to provide necessary funding to help address unmet mental health needs in NYS and has been the subject of a no-cost extension through May 2023. CBC TI has curated and facilitated these offerings, bringing nationally renowned self-care experts to NYS's behavioral health workforce.

Self-care trainings funded by SAMHSA in February included a reprise of the popular two-part "Exploring and Understanding Racial Trauma" series in partnership with [Westchester Jewish Community Services](#) and the [NYS Council for Community Behavioral Health](#). This popular training drew sixty unique attendees from 25 behavioral health provider agencies over its two parts. Additional trainings included the sixth in CBC TI's series of Covid-19 Town Halls with an expert epidemiologist, while [Service Program for Older People](#) led a

"Hands on Self-Care for Addressing Trauma" series and [NAMI-NYC](#) led distinct trainings on managing stress responses and cultivating positive emotions. Since January 2021, the SAMHSA grant has trained 1733 unique attendees from 344 agencies, of which 50% are based in NYC and 50% in the rest-of-State.

OTHER TI INITIATIVES

In February, CBC TI delivered its first out-of-state training, venturing to Nashville, Tennessee to work with [Firsthand](#). Firsthand is building a peer support model, and solicited CBC TI to deliver trainings on topics such as Self-Care, Person-Centered Care, Medication Management, Suicide Prevention and more.

CBC TI also continued its ongoing Project ECHO series supporting OUD treatment providers over the past month. CBC's resident MAT expert Dr. Bruce Trigg delivered a didactic on Sublocade, an injectable form of buprenorphine that can greatly assist OUD service recipients.



Finally, CBC Medical Director Dr. Bianca Nguyen and CBC TI Institute Director, Emily Grossman presented on Medication Management entitled "Choice and Voice: Engaging Clients in Shared Decision Making Around Medication and Treatment"

to 87 behavioral health providers from 21 community-based provider agencies.

TI DIRECTOR EMILY GROSSMAN IN PRINT & MEDIA

CBC TI Director Emily Grossman's inspiring recovery story from bipolar disorder has been featured in various news and media outlets in recent months, from her local newspaper to psychiatric journals to popular podcasts.

[Montclair Local](#) first interviewed Ms. Grossman in a December feature article "[A Life Of Bipolar Disorder, Years Of Struggle—And, Eventually, Happiness,](#)" and more recently, Ms. Grossman has authored "[Bipolar Disorder: A Springboard To My Higher Self,](#)" which was published via [American Psychiatric Association's Psychiatric Services Journal](#). Meanwhile, Ms. Grossman has lent her voice to the "[Mental Health Advocate Extraordinaire: Emily Grossman](#)" episode of [Kevin Hines's HINESIGHTS Podcast](#), as well as the "[Changing Poison to Medicine](#)" episode of MHA Westchester's [Surfacing podcast](#).

Read and listen to all the above via corresponding links, and kudos, Emily!

MARCH TRAINING INSTITUTE CALENDAR

CBC TI's Training Calendar for March is [available here](#). Please contact CBC TI Director [Emily Grossman](#) with any questions.

INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS

CASN OPERATIONS UPDATE

In February, the Citywide Addiction Support Network (CASN) assembled its Peer Support Group, featuring over twenty Certified Recovery Peers. This group provides an opportunity for referral sourcing, relationship building and support to New Yorkers struggling with substance use. The meeting continues to run monthly and grows as new hires are integrated into the network. Meanwhile, CASN also assembled its second Learning Collaborative for network providers and the wider community of NYC stakeholders, providing an update to the on nascent partnerships with Rikers Release Program, the ongoing outreach work in Washington Square Park and prevention services underway at city family shelters and youth programs across The Bronx, Manhattan and Queens.

As the network's reach continues to grow, [NYC Health + Hospitals](#) has identified staff to begin their [ExpressCare](#) 24/7 virtual buprenorphine induction services clinic. ExpressCare is being piloted with five CASN provider agencies, and the network expects to add more as call data are collected. This virtual clinic will allow for greater access to MAT services while working with service recipients in the field.

[Samaritan Daytop Village](#) continues to operate a 24/7 Open Access clinic and has received over 1400 calls after hours since April 2021. [The Fortune Society](#) has begun

its MAT Induction program and will continue to field referrals from the criminal justice system with service recipients in need of MAT.

TECHNOLOGY & DATA ANALYTICS



IMSny

INNOVATIVE
MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS
NEW YORK

IMSny's GROWING PROFILE

As technology permeates all levels of healthcare, from patient engagement tools to analytics-informed decision-making programs, [Innovative Management Solutions \(IMS\) NY](#) sits at the cutting edge of advances in this space—partnering with innovators and participating in thought leadership events.

Recent Events:

- **Arcadia's "The Schema":** Watch IMSny Chief Information Officer Elise Kohl-Grant discuss how IMNSY is engaging service recipients of IPA provider agencies and improving care outcomes through innovative technologies via [Arcadia's](#) web series [here](#).
- **HIMSS NY Behavioral Health Webinar Series:** The [HIMSS NYS Chapter](#) collaborated with IMSny to launch its Behavioral Health Technology Series with an "Emerging Behavioral Health Innovations" session,

presented by IMSNY CIO Elise Kohl-Grant. Check out the recording [here](#).

- **Foothold Technology and IMSNY: Strength in numbers:** Learn about how partnerships with EHR vendors like Foothold Technology drive better access to data and ultimately better client care in this [panel discussion](#), featuring IMSNY Chief Operating Officer Mathew Smith. CBC and CBHS members can engage with IMSNY's [AWARDS Innovate](#) partnership opportunity [here](#).
- **HIMSS 2022 Conference:** IMSNY CIO Elise Kohl-Grant is presenting at three sessions. Watching sessions is simple, just follow the directions in [this link](#). Events take place between March 14-16.

Upcoming Events:

- **TIPAAA (The IPA Association of America):** IMSNY will be onsite in Orlando, Florida from March 24-26 for the annual [TIPAAA conference](#) to meet with and learn from IPAs from all over the country. If you are attending or know anyone who is, please connect with IMSNY COO [Matt Smith](#) to schedule a cup of coffee (or tea).
- **NatCon 2022:** Behavioral health care leaders will descend upon the nation's capital for the [annual NatCon conference](#) from April 11-13 to share best practices forge new partnerships. IMSNY will be there, learning from the experts and sharing a poster presentation about the complexities and opportunities inherent to working

with behavioral health data. Please [connect with us](#) if you plan to be there.

SOLUTIONS FOR CBC IPA MEMBER AGENCIES: TRIAD SPOTLIGHT

CBC, through IMSNY, has partnered with [Triad](#), the leading provider of education, community and career resources for behavioral and mental health professionals and organizations. Through the Triad Employer Solutions suite of services, Triad can support behavioral health workforces with its niche recruitment tool, Jobs Marketplace; with continuing education courses for licensed clinicians; with exam prep courses for licensure seekers; and with the Triad Network—the LinkedIn for behavioral and mental health.

health professionals with the “demand” of employers looking to hire them.

Learn more about the exam prep and continuing education discount [here](#); for access to Jobs Marketplace, contact Triad's CEO, Brandon Jones, [here](#).

Take advantage of the negotiating power of the full CBC network to secure high-quality solutions at a lower cost. Contact IMSNY COO [Mathew Smith](#) for more information.



Triad has worked with several CBC and CBHS providers to support their workforce needs. IPA members seeking to recruit new behavioral health professionals or improve staff retention can secure exclusive pricing to Triad services via IMSNY. All IMSNY providers receive a 25% discount on all exam prep and continuing education courses (offered through AATBS, the flagship Triad brand), which can be paid for or subsidized by you, or passed along as an employee benefit at no cost. All providers also receive a 15% discount on Jobs Marketplace, Triad's recruitment solution that matches their “supply” of 210k+ behavioral and mental

IMSNY Partners	The IMSNY Deal
<p>Zoom Virtual meetings and telehealth</p>	<p>IMSNY’s Zoom licenses include large conference and webinar for every business account for the monthly price of \$15 per license. Your current contract can be easily transferred to the IMSNY account. Contact us if interested. We currently have over 80 available licenses in our inventory, ready for immediate assignment.</p>
<p>Relias Learning Management System with content library</p>	<p>Join the nearly 12,000 Relias users in the IMSNY network. Connect with us to schedule a demonstration to learn how Relias can be the “easy button” for your training needs, both in terms of training content and administrative features (quality assurance, reporting, curriculum assignment, and content storage). And if you are already contemplating or negotiating with Relias, reach out to us for the IMSNY discount.</p>
<p>Ride Health Client transportation leveraging analytics</p>	<p>Connect with Ride Health to see whether their transportation coordination solution, tailored to the needs of complex populations across the behavioral health spectrum to enhance access to medical and non-medical destinations, can help reduce dependence on costly in-house fleets and/or reduce the staff time spent scheduling and following up on rides. Schedule a meeting</p>

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT: VIBRANT EMOTIONAL HEALTH



[Vibrant Emotional Health](#) and Disaster Psychiatry Outreach (DPO) joined forces in 2019 to create the Crisis Emotional Care Team (CECT). This merge allows Vibrant to access its 50-year history of mental health service provision with the DPO service model to provide best practices in emotional and mental health support to organizations and individuals recovering from disaster and crisis.

The CECT provides just-in-time support and care for those in the acute as well as longer term recovery phases of a natural or human-caused disaster or crisis. Our team fosters individual and community resiliency by training emotional care providers to work collaboratively with those affected—to build capacity, self-efficacy and the ability to apply standards of excellence and best practices.

On June 9th and 10th, CECT is hosting “Bridging The Gap: A Symposium on Disaster Behavioral Health Access for All.” This two-day symposium is dedicated to addressing and discussing the behavioral health gaps within the structural and institutional systems for a variety of people groups: people with disabilities; people from rural communities; Black, Indigenous, and People of Color; economically disadvantaged; people experiencing homelessness; religious minorities; and more.

This event will showcase Vibrant’s commitment to equity and inclusion in behavioral health access for all. Vibrant is looking for diverse voices to speak about behavioral health inequities following disasters and crises. Panelist selections will highlight speakers, community members, behavioral health care providers and organization leaders who come from marginalized and underrepresented groups.

Presentation/panel discussions can include, but are not limited to, the following as they relate to behavioral health care for marginalized and underrepresented groups experiencing disasters or crises:

- Professional experience in the field;
- Implementation of behavioral health technologies/apps;
- Original research; and
- Critical review of crisis care practices.

Each panel will be 60 minutes. Presentations should account for a minimum of 10 minutes for audience questions. If submitting for a panel format, please limit to five people including a facilitator. Vibrant will provide a host for each presentation regardless of format. Submitters are free to submit multiple proposals; however, the review board will only be choosing one submission per person or groups of people to present.

This call for submissions will be open until March 18th. Submitters can expect to hear back from the review board by April 8th. All those chosen to present will be provided complimentary tickets to the symposium.

If you have any questions, concerns, or problems filling out [this form](#), please contact crisisectionalcare@vibrant.org.