



mhca Bulletin – February 17, 2022

MEMBER NEWS

RVBH expanding home-based services due to capacity limits

Wanda Figueroa Peralta, CEO of RVBH, said as the organization experiences capacity limitations, it is working to reallocate services to the community in other ways, such as home-based services.

https://www.messenger-inquirer.com/news/rvbh-expanding-home-based-services-due-to-capacity-limits/article_a50756e4-9a2b-546d-845e-78ba248d700c.html

RVBH awarded \$180K grant to expand substance abuse services to homeless population

"We know that substance abuse often co-occurs with mental illness in the homeless population," said Dr. Lionel Phelps, RiverValley's Vice President of Continuous Quality Improvement. "We want to address this issue and break down the obstacles to treatment and recovery. The funding from this grant will allow us to hire additional staff for our Mobile Crisis Team and provide additional technology supports to identify and treat individuals dealing with a substance use disorder who reside in homeless shelters."

<https://www.owensborotimes.com/life/health-wellness/2022/02/rvbh-awarded-180k-grant-to-expand-substance-abuse-services-to-homeless-population/>

FEMA shares mental health resources for children affected by Ky. storm

Laura Day is a therapist with **River Valley Behavioral Health**, and she's been working with many children that were affected by the storm. "They're becoming closer to their families, which is good, but they're becoming very clingy," Day says. "They're having anxiety about coming to school, they're having nightmares."

<https://www.14news.com/2022/02/09/fema-shares-mental-health-resources-children-affected-by-ky-storm/>

LifeSkills program prepares students for future success

"Pre-ETS focuses on students, from age 14 to 21, who have a documented learning disability or other diagnosed disability," Chaffin said. "We help them to make well-informed decisions about their future. It's hard enough for most high school students when faced with making such huge choices, but many of these students aren't even aware that options exist for them."

https://www.bgdailynews.com/community/lifeskills-program-prepares-students-for-future-success/article_3d105202-3fd8-5257-84e2-ce370f159a19.html

Monarch receives Care Management Agency certification as part of North Carolina's Medicaid Transformation Plan

"As a longtime provider of comprehensive behavioral health services, Monarch is uniquely positioned to provide Care Management Agency services to North Carolinians," said President and CEO Peggy Terhune, Ph.D. "With over six decades of experience, this certification speaks to our strength and capabilities in providing services to people who need it most. We look forward to leading the way in this new model of care."

<https://www.robsonian.com/news/154228/monarch-receives-care-management-agency-certification-as-part-of-north-carolinas-medicaid-transformation-plan>

Doctor of Psychology program is coming to Springfield through Burrell and MSU partnership

Burrell President and CEO C.J. Davis and Missouri State President Clif Smart signed a memorandum of understanding Thursday at the Burrell Administrative Center. Burrell will contribute \$500,000 over the next few years to help establish the program and will provide training support for PsyD students at Missouri State.

<https://www.news-leader.com/story/news/2022/02/10/psyd-program-springfield-burrell-behavioral-healthand-missouri-state-university-partnership/6735296001/>

A new place for 'life-changing' mental health support

A new primary care clinic for clients of **Burrell Behavioral Health** and underserved community members has opened, thanks to a partnership between Burrell

Behavioral Health at Stephens Lake and Preferred Family Healthcare.

<https://www.kbia.org/2022-02-04/a-new-place-for-life-changing-mental-health-support>

Mental health service providers see light at end of tunnel in Pritzker proposal

The head of Bloomington-based **Chestnut Health Systems** said Gov. JB Pritzker's proposed boost in mental health funding comes at a critical time. The \$140 million in additional money was part of Pritzker's budget speech last week.

<https://www.wglt.org/local-news/2022-02-09/mental-health-service-providers-see-light-at-end-of-tunnel-in-pritzker-proposal>

St. Clair County Transit District Board Approves Expansion Of Partnership With Chestnut Health Systems

The St. Clair County Transit District (SCCTD) Board of Trustees has approved a two-year expansion of its pilot program designed to help address problematic behaviors on the local transit system in conjunction with Chestnut Health Systems™, a not-for-profit health and human services organization.

<https://www.riverbender.com/articles/details/st-clair-county-transit-district-board-approves-expansion-of-partnership-with-chestnut-health-systems-56177.cfm>

WellStone Part of Growing Trend of Behavioral Health Providers Moving Toward Value-Based Care

WellStone CEO Jeremy Blair is among those in behavioral health who have been reading the tea leaves on value-based care and been working to get the provider up to speed as it looks to enter such reimbursement arrangements.

<https://bhbusiness.com/2022/02/09/wellstone-part-of-growing-trend-of-behavioral-health-providers-moving-toward-value-based-care/>

Frontline staff at Mind Springs, West Springs kind and caring

I am grateful for each every one of these special people. They give hope to the hopeless. They teach coping skills to people dealing with difficult and heart-wrenching situations. Their goals are to enhance the quality of their clients' and patients' lives. They enable people to heal, to hope and to live.

<https://www.theheraldtimes.com/frontline-staff-at-mind-springs-west-springs-kind-and-caring/opinion/>

'It would have been a great asset to have': Mental health experts respond after deadly officer-involved I-65 shooting

"It's hard not knowing him obviously," said Beth Walser, Clinical Director for **Volunteer Behavioral Health**. "But, someone that suffers with alcoholism, oftentimes that comes with anger."

<https://www.wjhl.com/news/regional/tennessee/it-would-have-been-a-great-asset-to-have-mental-health-experts-respond-after-deadly-officer-involved-i-65-shooting/>

Hydroponics help Alaska's youth

Alaska Behavioral Health's program Alaska Seeds of Change works with young people on growing produce in a hydroponic garden while also focusing on building mental health skills in an atmosphere of support.

<https://www.alaskanewssource.com/video/2022/01/28/hydroponics-help-alaska-youth/>

Peace River Center Expands Services to Northeast Polk County, Celebrates with Ribbon Cuttings for Club Success Lakeland and Haines City

"We believe that individuals living with mental illnesses can and should have the opportunity to reach their full potential in a friendly, inviting, and productive environment, and that is the focus of a Clubhouse," said Bill Gardam, CEO of Peace River Center (PRC).

<https://www.peacrivercenter.org/expanded-services/https://www.peacrivercenter.org/expanded-services/>

Newsletter sparks internal conversation on diversity and inclusion

Family & Children's Services bridges its employees together through a monthly newsletter reflecting world events, historical facts and topical information. Culture Points is the brainchild of Noemi Agagianian, who initiated the idea while working with F&CS' Women in Recovery (WIR) clients a few years ago.

<https://www.fcsok.org/newsletter-sparks-internal-conversation-on-diversity-and-inclusion/>

INDUSTRY NEWS

JCOIN is now accepting applications for the 2022 Learning Experiences to Advance Practice (LEAP) Scholar and Investigator programs

LEAP is a research education and mentorship program to advance the capacity and diversity of high impact research for populations involved with the health and criminal-legal systems through specialized training and skill-development curriculums. The one-year LEAP Scholar program is designed for practitioners who work in health and/or justice systems and students early in their graduate studies who are interested in exploring research focused on populations affected by the criminal-legal system. The Investigator program is designed for early career investigators who desire a two-year mentorship program to refine research design, implementation, proposal writing, and grantsmanship skills. **Applications are due Feb. 18, 2022.**

<https://www.jcoinctc.org/leap-2022/>

PROVIDERS AND PAYERS REACT TO NEW MENTAL HEALTH PARITY REPORT DEFICIENCIES

The biennial report on Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) shows that health plans are not yet up to speed with new parity requirements.

<https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/payer/providers-and-payers-react-new-mental-health-parity-report-deficiencies>

KEYS TO SUCCESS IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ACUTE CARE JOINT PARTNERSHIPS

Health systems and hospitals can boost their behavioral health programs by working with an external partner.

<https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/clinical-care/keys-success-behavioral-health-acute-care-joint-partnerships>

Black Mental Health in America

It's time to expand our view on what it means to be strong. Watch as Dr. Nicole Cammack, CEO of Black Mental Wellness discusses how we can redefine resilience and mental health care in the Black community.

<https://healthymind.crediblemind.com/videos/black-mental-health-in-america-redefining-resilience>

Fine to increase mental and behavioral health workforce

SB 3617 focuses on expanding the current workforce. It will accelerate the process for out of state clinicians applying for licensure in Illinois, as well as suspending requirements for social workers, professional counselors, and clinical psychologists with licenses that have been inactive for five years. Additionally, it includes initiatives to support diversity in the mental health field, establishing tax credits, and many more provisions, all of which will encourage more quality, accessible care to those seeking assistance.

<https://www.illinoisenatedemocrats.com/caucus-news/28-senator-laura-fine-news/3537-fine-to-increase-mental-and-behavioral-health-workforce>

BUSINESS NEWS & LEADERSHIP ARTICLES**7 personal challenges that can improve your leadership**

To challenge yourself is to try something new, scale up your skill set or explore "new attitudes, behaviors, skills, and practices," writes Dan Rockwell. "Advancement begins at the point of discomfort, when you try something you haven't done," Rockwell adds.

<https://leadershipfreak.blog/2022/02/10/the-only-challenge-that-matters/>

How to boost curiosity in your company — and why

Curiosity and creativity spur innovation. To build these skills companywide, emphasize questions over answers and create space for exploration.

<https://mitsloan.mit.edu/ideas-made-to-matter/how-to-boost-curiosity-your-company-and-why>

Pet-Friendly Workplaces Are On The Rise

According to research, pets are tremendously good for your health, wellbeing and even your cognitive function. And the good news is there are increasing numbers of workplaces where you can take your pet to work and reap the benefits of pet ownership no matter what your work schedule.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/tracybrower/2022/02/01/pet-friendly-workplaces-are-on-the-rise-heres-where-to-find-them/?sh=33724f3c43a7>

Healing the long-term effects of COVID-19 on careers

Organizations must be prepared to respond to an expanded definition of what careers are and how they're developed. We must bring greater creativity to helping people learn, grow and develop in ways that are meaningful to them and that serve their broader lives.

https://corp.smartbrief.com/original/2022/02/healing-the-long-term-effects-of-covid-19-on-careers?utm_source=brief

Past issues of this publication are available online at: <https://mhca.com/about-us/member-news>

NOTE: If we missed a recent (past 2 weeks) news article about your organization, please send the [link](#) to Lonnie Parizek at lparizek@mhca.com to be included in our next issue. We cannot accept links to articles that are behind paywalls. Have something to report that wasn't covered in your local news? We'd love to hear all about it and link to the news on your website! If you can't wait to read the latest news, follow [@mhca](#) on Twitter where we post these articles and many others daily.

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