



Bi-Weekly Bulletin for April 29, 2021

MEMBER NEWS

Celebrate Your mhca Peers

Two of your **mhca** peers have been recognized with National Council Awards of Excellence. Led by Wayne Young, **The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD** was recognized with an Innovation at Work Award, and **Community Reach Center CEO Rick Doucet** was recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Please congratulate these members on their well-deserved recognition.

https://www.thenationalcouncil.org/about/awards/?mkt_tok=NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAF8kANZLcMk-c_AQ6KeoxEEzBC85K2NC-In_TMBOVJypc-7o4VrE5YItunw21DekrZ3NkKzHXHJIIObXwY_JhpcV6xTDHODrxjfsqtpLg

Mission, vision and values are more than just words

Even as Highland Rivers has faced challenges we have maintained a focus on our purpose and mission. While organizational mission statements can sometimes be cumbersome and jargon-filled, we recently rewrote ours to be simple and meaningful.

https://www.northwestgeorgianews.com/mission-vision-and-values-are-more-than-just-words/article_ec92d376-a701-11eb-8acb-9beab5b1078a.html

Mental health poised to be Colorado's next pandemic priority

"There's a new dynamic. ... It's almost like it's OK to get help," Dr. Carl Clark, president and CEO of the **Mental Health Center of Denver**, tells Axios.

<https://news.yahoo.com/mental-health-poised-colorados-next-122035159.html>

Alachua County Officials Explore Repurposing Former High Springs Church For New Community Resource Center

Meridian Behavioral Healthcare's CEO Don Savoie has also expressed support of the purchase and an interest in bringing the organization's services out to this location. When asked why Meridian supports the purchase of the church, Savoie said, "The simple answer is access to care."

<https://www.wuft.org/news/2021/03/25/alachua-county-officials-explore-repurposing-former-high-springs-church-for-new-community-resource-center/>

Meridian Healthcare and GPD program helps mentally ill residents stay out of jail system

Hundreds of residents battling mental illness or substance abuse have received treatment and advice from officers, instead of jail time, thanks to the Gainesville Police Department(GPD) and Meridian Healthcare co-respondents program.

<https://www.wcjb.com/2021/04/13/meridian-healthcare-and-gpd-program-helps-mentally-ill-residents-stay-out-of-jail-system/>

Florida needs to invest in mental health system

Maggie LaBarta Guest columnist

Legislators often recognize the need but not that existing community behavioral health centers, assets in which they already have a substantial investment, can be leveraged to address new and growing need if they are adequately supported.

<https://www.gainesville.com/story/opinion/2021/04/15/maggie-labarta-florida-needs-invest-mental-health-system/7164791002/>

Burrell discusses mental health during pandemic at Columbia Mall vaccination event

Burrell Crisis Counseling Program manager Jackson Douglas handed out fliers with mental health resources as people exited the waiting area after getting their shots.

https://www.komu.com/abrightertomorrow/burrell-discusses-mental-health-during-pandemic-at-columbia-mall-vaccination-event/article_b6d59afa-a1fe-11eb-b351-53ff8e2ca077.html

Free statewide support group helps educators and first responders handle challenges of pandemic

Valley Oaks Health in Lafayette holds two statewide, weekly virtual support groups for first responders and educators. The groups discuss the struggles of being on the frontlines through the COVID-19 pandemic while giving participants a place to connect with those who are going through the same things.

<https://www.wane.com/news/indiana/free-statewide-support-group-helping-educators-and-first-responders-handle-challenges-of-pandemic/>

Ways to Push Through the Struggle

Aurora Mental Health Center helps clients build resilience and find health ways to cope with pandemic-related stress.

<https://www.9news.com/video/entertainment/television/programs/colorado-and-company/aurora-mental-health-march-9-2021/73-452746ea-0348-40ce-8346-6abefe7641c1>

Helping Children Cope During the Pandemic

Aurora Mental Health Center encourages proactive approach to addressing pandemic concerns for children.

<https://www.9news.com/video/entertainment/television/programs/colorado-and-company/aurora-mental-health-clinic-march-16-2021/73-51f3a7d6-6e29-4b2e-91f2-6cbb15b01448>

Valley Mental Health Provider Gets Federal Funding

Tropical Texas Behavioral Health is to receive nearly four-million dollars.

<https://www.kurv.com/valley-mental-health-provider-gets-federal-funding/>

INDUSTRY NEWS

Op-Ed: Does Healthcare Understand Human Behavior?

A more holistic view of people's decision-making can help us better help our patients. It's high time we take a deeper look at the biological substrate that underlies our thinking and move away from snap judgments based on limited and faulty data. Behavioral economics and habit research opened the door to new models of understanding human behavior, and it's time for the medical community to take the next step.

<https://www.medpagetoday.com/publichealthpolicy/generalprofessionalissues/92137>

Genomic Data – Not Race – May Enhance Chronic Disease Management

Genomic data can provide more targeted insights into chronic disease management than those generated from traditional ethnic or racial labels like Hispanic or Black, a study published in Cell revealed.

<https://healthitanalytics.com/news/genomic-data-not-race-may-enhance-chronic-disease-management>

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. 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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1876 Eider Court, Suite A
Tallahassee, FL 32308

TEL: (850) 942-4900

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