



mhca News Bulletin

MEMBER NEWS

WellPower Youth Program Combatting Suicide Through Art

Over 20 years, the program has grown to 20 different groups.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nwdP4vniYqk#msdyntrid=mTDWDcGSBkYiG37OwIGrLA_Acba74triMtKVZ65-1xw

WellPower and Jefferson Center to Merge on 7/1/24

We are thrilled to announce that Jefferson Center and WellPower, both locally and nationally recognized community mental health centers, will merge into one non-profit organization to serve Clear Creek, Denver, Gilpin and Jefferson County communities on July 1, 2024. The merger creates the largest and most innovative behavioral health provider in Colorado with an unparalleled array of programs and services.

<https://www.wellpower.org/merger/#msdyntrid=xelvdI4KHQgw65yfjLluaA63IQy9vt6VxWQ-3frZX4c>

Artificial Intelligence in Mental Health Therapy for Children and Adolescents

Technology, including tools that use artificial intelligence (AI), has the capacity to be a “work-force multiplier,” in the words of Wes Williams, vice president and chief information officer of WellPower, Colorado’s largest community mental health service.

https://www.wellpower.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/jamapediatrics_vial_2023_vp_230030_1696961921.74172.pdf#msdyntrid=t3tEgeMEd-F77nMz4OaatDFm5fJbIVR_cl9MqbjIA

RESEARCH INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES MAJOR STAFFING EXPANSION

The recent addition of five senior research scientists and 40 research support staff members represents a near doubling in size of **Chestnut Health Systems**™ Lighthouse Institute. "Chestnut's entire leadership team is beyond excited to see how much LI can accomplish and its future impact on the behavioral health field with this consolidation of unparalleled talent," said David A. Sharar, Chief Executive Officer, Chestnut Health Systems.

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/research-institute-announces-major-staffing-expansion-301973145.html>

Tri-County Mental health is now Beacon Mental Health

Tri-County Mental Health Services has been serving Clay, Platte and Ray counties for 50 years. We are an independent nonprofit organization (not a county agency), and we are managed by a volunteer board of directors drawn from the community we serve. We serve over 9,000 people every year. Tri-County Mental Health Services is changing its NAME and LOGO. That is all. New Look, Same Programs, Same Care. The new name is Beacon Mental Health!

<https://www.beaconmentalhealth.org/beacon-mental-health-new-look-same-programs-same-care/>

MELANIE DALLAS: Rosalynn Carter's Legacy of Compassion and Caring

If you were to come to **Highland Rivers Behavioral Health** for services, one of the first documents you'd be given is a list of your rights as an individual receiving treatment from our agency. What you may not realize is that list of patient rights is a legacy of the work of former First Lady Rosalynn Carter, who passed away November 19. It is but one of many ways her impassioned work impacted our collective understanding of mental illness and how mental health services are delivered to individuals.

https://www.tribuneledgernews.com/opinion/melanie-dallas-rosalynn-carters-legacy-of-compassion-and-caring/article_7d7d9eb8-8b05-11ee-a98f-ff1b36077636.html

INDUSTRY NEWS

Amwell CEO: AI 'Was the Last Piece of the Puzzle' for Behavioral Health Integration

After Amwell providers or its AI-backed automated systems determine the patient needs mental health services, the patient is queued to see a clinician on the same platform. The move is meant to bridge a systemic gap in health care: patient activation.

https://bhbusiness.com/2023/11/10/amwell-ceo-ai-was-the-last-piece-of-the-puzzle-for-behavioral-health-integration/?euid=5ea7e2fa61&utm_source=bhb-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=c18dc1007c&mc_cid=c18dc1007c&mc_eid=5ea7e2fa61

'Where the Money Goes Drives Action': Florida Blue, SCAN Incentivize VBC Behavioral Health Integration

"We have been empowering our primary care providers with data through our provider portal and reporting that really embraces both the physical and behavioral health results and outcomes," Chafin said. "I'm proud to say that at this point, all of our primary care medical adult provider value-based arrangements include at least one behavioral health quality metric. Where the money goes drives action."

https://bhbusiness.com/2023/11/21/where-the-money-goes-drives-action-florida-blue-scan-incentivize-vbc-behavioral-health-integration/?euid=5ea7e2fa61&utm_source=bhb-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=a73531b7eb&mc_cid=a73531b7eb&mc_eid=5ea7e2fa61

'There's a Lot of Room for Innovation' In Serious Mental Illness Care

"Serious mental illness is different from other parts of the healthcare ecosystem because it changes people's life trajectory so dramatically. We do a lot of work around peers trying to layer in novel approaches to how you engage somebody with SMI. And we've had a lot of success," said Dr. Ben Robbins, a trained psychiatrist and general partner at GV (Google Ventures), said at Behavioral Health Business INVEST.

https://bhbusiness.com/2023/11/22/gv-theres-a-lot-of-room-for-innovation-in-serious-mental-illness-care/?euid=5ea7e2fa61&utm_source=bhb-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=a73531b7eb&mc_cid=a73531b7eb&mc_eid=5ea7e2fa61

'Payer Ghosting' Further Straining Behavioral Health-Health Plan Relationship

Contracts often have recourse for certain actions, including payer denials, prior authorizations, and special investigations unit (SIU) letters, to name a few, but this isn't the case for payer ghosting. Often, there's no clear recourse when a payer simply stops engaging with a provider on reimbursement.

<https://bhbusiness.com/2023/11/27/payer-ghosting-marks-evolution-in-the-fraught-relationship-between-behavioral-health-and-health-plans/>

How behavioral healthcare can benefit from patient portals

Between in-person or telehealth appointments, portals can offer information about self-care and healthy habits and be a vehicle for reporting patient health indicators, among other things, one expert says.

<https://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/how-behavioral-healthcare-can-benefit-patient-portals>

Eleos Health and Kipu Health Announce Partnership to Deliver AI-Powered Insights to Behavioral Health Providers

By enabling Eleos Health's voice-based Natural Language Understanding (NLU) technology to be embedded within its Electronic Medical Record (EMR) platform, Kipu will empower its behavioral health clients to automate documentation and clinical analysis of patient sessions. This not only eases providers' notetaking process but also offers powerful insights to drive care decisions.

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/eleos-health-and-kipu-health-announce-partnership-to-deliver-ai-powered-insights-to-behavioral-health-providers-301999315.html>

BUSINESS NEWS & LEADERSHIP ARTICLES

It's Okay to Make Mistakes

By granting more permission for mistakes, we actually create an environment within ourselves, as well as our key relationships and teams, that is conducive to trust, connection, risk-taking, forgiveness, creativity, and genuine success. While it can seem a bit uncomfortable, and even counter-intuitive, allowing more freedom for mistakes to be made, ironically creates the conditions for less errors to occur, and more fun and productivity to take place.

<https://mike-robbins.com/its-okay-to-make-mistakes/>

Tips for Managing Politics In the Workplace During Election Season

In 2020, almost half of workers reported the election impacted their productivity. So now again, business leaders have a decision to make—will they try to curtail election chatter at the water cooler, in the small-talk minutes before a Zoom meeting and in employee chats? Will they take a public stance on their company's election position? Might they even make room for election discussion in a formal way in their workplace? As 2023 wraps up and the election year begins, decisions about how to handle politics at work are looming.

<https://www.success.com/how-to-handle-politics-at-work-during-election-season/>

A 4-step guide to level up leadership according to 'The Bear'

We often read books, attend seminars, and strive to learn more about our passions and careers. But what if you could send your team home to binge-watch a show and return to the office to dissect it? The Bear offers a treasure trove of teachable moments that can propel your team beyond the screen, just like The Beef's transformation.

<https://www.fastcompany.com/90979567/guide-to-level-up-leadership-according-to-the-bear>

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

NOTE: If we missed a recent (past 30 days) 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 or Facebook where we post these articles and many others daily.

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