



BHC
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COLLABORATIVE



Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 10th, 2019
[Click Here to Register](#)

AUGUST 2019
NEWSLETTER



New Community Stakeholder Representative

The BHC is thrilled to announce our new Community Stakeholder Representative, Scott Austgen. Scott is the current Vice President of Programs at DuPagePads and serves on the BHC's Post Incarceration Supports Subcommittee. As the Community Stakeholder Representative, Scott will provide the perspective of the community at large to the BHC Executive Committee. Scott is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with 18 years of experience in mental health and substance use treatment.



BHC Subcommittees Begin

This past July saw the first meetings of the BHC's initial subcommittees. The two subcommittees will work towards making progress in the two primary focus areas for the BHC from the 2017 SIM Workshop: the establishment of a countywide receiving center and the improvement of post-incarceration supports for individuals with mental illness leaving jail. Each subcommittee will meet once per month and will regularly report their progress at quarterly BHC meetings. If you are interested in joining a subcommittee, please contact Scott Kaufmann at scott.kaufmann@dupagehealth.org.

Presentation from the Council of State Governments Justice Center

The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center will be visiting DuPage County in September as part of a site visit for the ongoing grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The representatives from CSG will provide a special presentation to the BHC about other justice and mental health partnerships that exist across the country and how they have been able to accomplish success. The presentation will be on September 19th at the Linda Kurzawa Community Center (115 N County Farm Rd, Wheaton, IL) from 1:30pm to 3:00pm. All members of the BHC are invited to attend and time will be allotted for questions from the audience after



the presentation. If you are interested in attending, please register [here](#). For more information about the CSG Justice Center, [visit their website](#).

Improving Cultural Competency for Individuals in the Justice System



A webinar was presented in May by the Council of State Governments Justice Center about the different ways that cultural biases can affect outcomes for people involved with the justice system. These potentially adverse outcomes can be addressed through work at a variety of different levels in the justice system, and some of these strategies are discussed. The webinar can be accessed [here](#), and a list of past CSG webinars can be found [here](#).



Collaborative Involvement Agreement



For those that were not able to attend the BHC meeting in June, the BHC has begun using a [Collaborative Involvement Agreement \(CIA\)](#). The purpose of these agreements is to establish a roster of people that are able to work actively on BHC initiatives. With this list of active members, we will be able

to understand which sectors need more representation and direct our efforts for outreach accordingly. The agreement is not mandatory to continue receiving emails from BHC, nor to continue attending BHC meetings. If you are interested in confirming your participation, please complete [this form](#) (either electronically or by printing, signing, and scanning) and send it back to me. The form will also be made available at the upcoming BHC meeting in September.

Stepping Up Strategy Lab

The Stepping Up Initiative has created a database of successful programs, policies, and practices from across the country that have been used to reduce the rate that people with mental illness are sent to jails. This database, called the [Stepping Up Strategy Lab](#), includes descriptions each different approach.



Depending on the research available, some also include reports on the implementation of the intervention in a specific community, as well as relevant documents (e.g. sample interagency agreements) that can serve as a model for other groups to replicate their work. For more information on the Stepping Up Initiative, visit their website [here](#).



September BHC Meeting Highlights

Our next BHC meeting will be on Tuesday, September 10th at the Linda A. Kurzawa Community Center (115 N County Farm Rd, Wheaton, IL 60187). If you plan to attend the meeting, please register [here](#). As always, new members are welcome to attend to learn more about what we do.

Below are some of the topics that will be discussed at the September meeting:



- Information about the initial months of the Decentralized Mobile Crisis Response pilot



- Presentation from new Community Stakeholder Representative Scott Austgen about DuPagePads



- Updates on the BHC structure and progress toward BJA grant objectives



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