



BHC
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COLLABORATIVE



Next Meeting

Thursday, September 8th, 2022

[Click Here to Register](#)

August 2022

NEWSLETTER

New DuPagePads Housing Center



DuPagePads is proud to introduce its new Interim Housing Center (IHC), a former hotel converted to provide emergency shelter to individuals and families in DuPage County. The benefits of this model are many, including better reflecting housing in the community that provides privacy, safety, dignity, warmth, connection, and stability. The need for assistance has continued to grow, and the capacity of the IHC has been able to respond to an increased demand. DuPagePads has grown from serving 100-150 clients per night with only around half taking advantage of case management assistance to often now serving over 300 clients on a given night with all able to receive case management.

Housing is essential to the wellbeing of everyone, and supportive staff members assist clients with obtaining permanent housing and reaching their other goals through a wholistic approach built on a compassion-focused philosophy of care and best practices to support those that DuPagePads serves.

It is common that new clients present with behavioral health needs, a history of adverse childhood experiences, and the trauma of homelessness, if not more. The IHC model is low-barrier to welcome in people with various needs, regardless of engagement in clinical care, as safe housing provides a foundation for a person's stabilization and growth. In addition to its team of staff and wonderful volunteers, DuPagePads has amazing partners that are on this journey; this includes NAMI delivering peer support services that provide hope and connection and the Health Department having a deep range of clinical resources that clients can access.

Potential clients are invited to contact the central intake area at 630-682-3846, option 1, or visit in-person at 703 W. Liberty Dr. Wheaton. Current hours are Mon-Fri 8am-8pm, Sat 8am-4pm, closed on Sundays. Referrals should not be sent to the IHC location.



BHC September Meeting

We will have a virtual meeting via Zoom on **Thursday, September 8th at 8:30am**. As always, please register beforehand if you plan to attend, the registration link can be found [here](#). Once you register, you will receive a link to access the meeting. At this meeting we will discuss the new BHC action plan, initial impressions from the rollout of 988, progress towards behavioral health projects, and upcoming events. We want everyone to share anything they have coming up and **if you have flyers or event links, you can send them to Scott Kaufmann before the meeting**. We look forward to seeing you next month!

New Mental Health Crisis Flyer

The BHC's Zero Suicide Subcommittee has developed a [flyer](#) designed to quickly share the benefits of different available crisis services. The flyer is meant to be shared widely with all partners who many have use to distribute at events and/or post in highly trafficked locations within their facilities.

If your organization needs support with printing the flyer, you can utilize the NAMI DuPage Print Shop by visiting [this link](#) or emailing info@lemonpressprinting.com. A Spanish-language version of the flyer will be shared soon and will be brought to BHC partners once available. Any questions about the flyer or the [Mental Health Resources page](#) can be directed to Scott Kaufmann (scott.kaufmann@dupagehealth.org).

September is National Suicide Prevention Month

The BHC is again happy to join community partners in celebrating National Suicide Prevention Month this September. This is an opportunity to share the great prevention work being done here in DuPage and nationally to reduce deaths by suicide. The [Suicide Prevention Resource Center](#) has developed a list of ways to take action during this month. The [American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](#) has developed blog posts, videos,



and written stories about the lasting impacts of deaths by suicide and how to work towards prevention.

More locally, Hines VA's Suicide Prevention Team is holding its annual Suicide Prevention Art Event on Thursday, September 8th, from 10:00am to 2:00pm. The event will be in the Winter Gardens Courtyard behind buildings 12 and 13 at Hines VA Hospital (5000 5th Ave, Hines, IL 60141). Additionally, the DuPage Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalition is hosting a Lethal Means Safety Day on Saturday, September 24th, from 9:00am to 1:00pm at the parking lot of the DuPage County Complex (421 N County Farm Rd, Wheaton, IL 60187).

Is your organization holding an event for National Suicide Prevention Month? If you'd like to share with the Behavioral Health Collaborative, send an email to Scott.Kaufmann@dupagehealth.org and we can send it out to BHC partners or feel free to bring information about it to our meeting in September.