BHI in action: Fostering effective health plan-physician partnerships

In this pre-recorded Overcoming Obstacles BHI webinar, released on Oct. 28, 2021, experts from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and IHA, a member of Trinity Health, share their experience working together to launch and maintain a successful BHI program. Hear about the key operational factors that make a payer-partner relationship advantageous for both parties and how they could be potentially duplicated in other markets across the country.

Webinar materials

- Download the webinar slides (PDF)

Speakers

William Beecroft, MD, DLFAPA

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Medical Director, Behavioral Health, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan/BCN

William Beecroft, MD, DLFAPA, is currently responsible for the medical administration of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan Behavioral Health and Behavioral Health strategy and planning. He has been instrumental in development of innovative programming in behavioral health including collaborative care, crisis programming, provider delivered care management and first-episode psychosis programming.

Dr. Beecroft received his MD from Michigan State University. He is board-certified in general psychiatry with added qualifications in geriatrics and consultation-liaison psychiatry. He was named a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association in 2018.

Corey Dean, MD, FAAP, FACP, CAQSM

Associate Program Director, Ambulatory Medicine, St. Joseph Hospital
Integrated Health Associates Site Medical Director, AIM Center

Corey Dean, MD, FAAP, FACP, is board-certified in internal medicine, pediatrics and sports medicine. Dr. Dean earned his medical degree from Michigan State University and completed his combined internal medicine and pediatrics residency at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, MA. Following his residency, he went on to complete a sports medicine fellowship at the Western Michigan University Homer Stryker, MD School of Medicine.

With over 20 years of experience, Dr. Dean has special interests in sports medicine, community wellness and behavioral health care. Dr. Dean is a member of numerous professional medical societies, and outside of practice, he is actively involved in his local community and school districts. In addition to English, Dr. Dean is also fluent in Spanish. He is medical director at St. Joseph Mercy Academic Internal Medicine Center where he helps train residents, doctors in training, as the
Kristyn A. Spangler, LMSW

Associate Director, Behavior Health, IHA Health Services Corp. A member of Trinity Health.

Kristyn A. Spangler, LMSW, serves as the associate director of behavioral health program manager at IHA and is a practicing social worker. At IHA she, along with Dr. Pat Ryan, launched Behavioral Health Collaborative Care in adult primary care offices, which has grown to 15 current locations.

Kristyn grew up in Columbus, received her undergraduate degree at Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) and later earned her Master’s in Social Work from the University of Michigan.

Kristyn regularly presents behavioral health topics to health systems, commercial insurances and educational institutions while serving on various councils related to mental health. Kristyn presented a master class for Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan in April 2019. Kristyn’s poster, “Embedding behavioral health in primary care improves outcomes for patients with depression and anxiety” won Most Recognized for Advancing Clinical Integration and the 2019 Trinity Health Clinical Summit. She was part of the team that taught advance training in collaborative care at the 2018 America Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting in New York City. Kristyn’s poster "Enhancing Behavioral Health Care in Safety-Net Clinics through the Implementation of Cross-System Collaborative Care" was presented at the Michigan Primary Care Association Conference in 2015. IHA’s collaborative care services are referenced in toolkits offered by the University of Washington and the American Psychiatric Association. Her collaborative works have been published in the peer-reviewed Psychiatric Services and the Journal of Coordination Chemistry.
Through her 30-year professional career, Kristyn has worked in homeless services, Children’s Protective Services, juvenile justice, emergency departments and physician offices. Being human is complicated and Kristyn strives to help people find their way and be their best selves.

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

With an increased number of people reporting worsening mental health in recent years, it is imperative that people are aware of the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) telephone program.

People experiencing a suicidal, substance use, and/or mental health crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress can call, chat or text 988, and speak to trained crisis counselors. The national hotline is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The previous National Suicide Prevention Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will continue to be operational and route calls to 988 indefinitely.