

ABH April Committee Meetings

Friday, April 1
Children's Services CEO,
10 a.m. (Hampton Inn, Natick)

Tuesday, April 5
ATS, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, April 6
e-Health, 10 a.m.,
(Hampton Inn, Natick)

Friday, April 8
Corporate Compliance,
10 a.m.

Monday, April 11
Billings, 10 a.m.
(Hampton Inn, Natick)

Wednesday, April 13
Outpatient, 10 a.m.
(Hampton Inn, Natick)

Thursday, April 14
CPS Oversight, 10 a.m.
SOAP, 10 a.m.
(Hampton Inn, Natick)

Friday, April 15
DAE/SOA, 10 a.m.
CBHI, 10 a.m.
(Hampton Inn, Natick)

Tuesday, April 19
OTP, 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 21
**Recovery Committee for
Residential Services,** 10 a.m.

Thursday, April 28
DSM-5/ICD-10, 10 a.m.
(Hampton Inn, Natick)

All meetings are held at ABH unless otherwise noted. For more information, call 508-647-8385.

Advocate for FY 17 Funding!

The House Committee on Ways and Means will introduce their version of the budget in the middle of April. Now is the time to contact your Representatives to discuss the importance of behavioral health funding. Senators are also working on their budget recommendations, which will be introduced and debated in May, so it is important to reach out to both your House and Senate members.

We hope you will reach out to your legislators by scheduling a meeting with the member and/or their staff, calling their office, and/or writing a letter outlining your priorities for FY'17 and how it effects your agency.

ABH has two major priorities we hope you will support when you contact your legislators.

- ABH is requesting that the Legislature funds the Department of Mental Health, MassHealth and Chapter 257 line items at the levels recommended by Governor Baker.
 - ◊ This will preserve all existing services, including new DMH community placements created in the last two fiscal years.
- ABH is requesting increased funding at the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services by \$11 million over Governor Baker's recommendations to fund additional addiction treatment services.
 - ◊ \$6 million would fund 200 new Recovery Home beds.
 - ◊ \$2 million would serve 500 additional individuals in the supportive case management program
 - ◊ \$3 million would fund a Recovery Coach pilot program. BSAS began funding Recovery Coaches through outpatient clinics in FY'16, but this new pilot would expand their roles outside of the traditional outpatient treatment system and meet clients where they are.

Please let Mandy Gilman know (AGilman@ABHmass.org) if you do connect with your legislators and staff. This feedback can be helpful as we move through the budget process.

ABH Member Opportunity: Optum Exploring Partnerships with Community-Based Provider Organizations

As you may know, MassHealth seeks to make major changes in how care is organized, financed, and delivered to over 1.2 million MassHealth members. MassHealth's overall goal is to develop and deploy a model that promotes integration and coordination of care to reduce silos, enhance population health, and allow providers to take on financial accountability for the total cost and quality of care.

Optum believes a unique opportunity exists for a collaborative relationship among community-based entities that provide behavioral health and substance use disorder services, and an entity like Optum. Optum believes the experience, clinical capabilities, compassion, and community connections of organizations like yours, coupled with Optum's capabilities, capacity and resources, will allow us all to better serve local communities together than either could on their own.

Optum invites ABH member executives to a networking event on March 16th to learn about how Optum might work together with your organization and how such a relationship might be structured.

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Hampton Inn, Natick (319 Speen Street)

Target Audience: CEOs and Senior Executives

This event is FREE!

Register NOW!

Questions? Contact Kristen Archibald at KArchibald@ABHmass.org or at 508-647-8385, x. 14.

Telemedicine Pilot Initiative

The Massachusetts Health Policy Commission is undertaking a telemedicine pilot initiative. The Health Policy Commission will award two or three health care providers, provider organizations, or carriers with \$500,000 each to “test the use of telemedicine to expand access to behavioral health care for high need populations. For more information, click [here](#).



Check out the National Council

This week, staff from ABH are attending the National Council for Behavioral Health's National Conference in Las Vegas. Hopefully, some of you were able to join them. If not, you can still check out some of the great work the National Council does on behalf of behavioral health providers. Take a moment to read [Linda's Corner Office](#), a blog from the Linda Rosenberg, President and CEO of the National Council or check out their [consulting and best practices](#) page. Also visit their [Policy Action Center](#) for the latest on federal policy issues and priorities. You can also follow them on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

NATIONAL COUNCIL
FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
STATE ASSOCIATIONS OF ADDICTION SERVICES
Stronger Together.

Public Forum

**Opioid Crisis:
Thinking
Outside the
Box**

Tuesday, April 5

8:30 a.m. to
12:30 p.m.

Back Bay Events
Center in Boston.

Presented by:
William James
College

ABH is a co-
sponsor of this
event.

Click [here](#) to
register.

Benchmarking Updates

Provider's Benchmarking is a powerful management tool that allows you to measure your organization's performance locally and nationally while providing meaningful information to help you make data-driven improvements in your organization. Through a partnership with the Providers' Council, Provider's Benchmarking is available to ABH members AND it has been recently updated:

New sections on opioid addiction and programs and workforce diversity have been added to the Providers' Council's Benchmarking initiative to help participants further refine their data and get a greater perspective of program performance at the state and national levels.

The Benchmarking Addiction Survey has been expanded to include a section specific to opioid addiction and services. These questions are aimed to make this survey even more valuable and effective in supporting our members' efforts to track their outcomes; understand how other agencies in the field (at both the state and national levels) are performing; and continue to move forward in the process of using outcomes based data to create positive, programmatic changes.

Additionally, the Organizational Climate Survey, an electronic staff satisfaction survey that offers participants the ability to see how their staff responses compare to other agencies, has expanded to address diversity. The questions have been refined through a collaborative process and chosen based on feedback from our benchmarking participants with the goal of allowing agencies to further explore this complex issue while also aiding in accreditation processes, including CARF.

For more information about the new surveys, the Benchmarking initiative or to request a demonstration, please email Liz Woodbury at LWoodbury@providers.org or call 617.428.3637 x125.

RFR Roundup

DPH/BSAS recently posted the RFR for the reprocurement of Residential Rehabilitation Services (RRS) system for adult men and women with substance use disorders. The RFR is available [here](#). The overarching goal of RRS is to provide a structured and comprehensive rehabilitative environment that supports each resident's independence and resilience and recovery from alcohol and/or other drug problems.

In addition, DPH/BSAS has posted an RFR on COMMBUYS for the procurement of two Residential Treatment and Recovery Services for Transitional Age Youth and Young Adults, RFR # 400421. The RFR and other related documents are available [here](#). BSAS plans to award up to two (2) contracts: One Alcohol Opioids and Other Drugs (AOOD) Residential Treatment Program for males ages 16-20 years to be located in the Southeast Region of Massachusetts and one AOOD Residential Treatment Program for females ages 18-25 years to be located in the Western Region of Massachusetts.

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A Peek in the Personnel File

DMH Commissioner Joan Mikula recently announced the appointment of Carol Murphy as the new Director of Caring Together. Carol will begin her new role on April 25, 2016; she is well known to many of us from her current role at Riverside Community Care and we look forward to continuing to work with her.



DMH Trainings

DMH is sponsoring two upcoming trainings:

1. **Shifting Away from Prone Restraints** to be held on March 30, 2016 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. This training is sponsored through the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health (DMH) Child & Adolescent Restraint/Seclusion Prevention Initiative. Contact is Annabelle Lim at: annabelle.lim@massmail.state.ma.us. The registration deadline is March 21, 2016 (or until max capacity is reached). Online Registration link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NoProne-3-30-16>

2. **How the Adults in Adoption Impact the Experience of Children and Themselves** to be held on April 5, 2016 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. This training is sponsored through the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health (DMH) Children's Behavioral Health Knowledge Center. Contact is Kelly English at: kelly.english@state.ma.us.

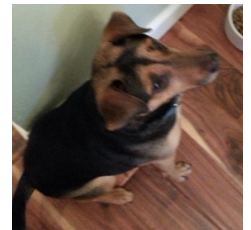
MassHealth Payment Reform

MassHealth is inviting all interested stakeholders to attend an Open Public Meeting related to payment reform efforts. This meeting will take place on: **Thursday, March 10 from 9:00-10:30 a.m.** at 1 Ashburton Place, 21st Floor, Boston, MA. More information is available [here](#).

Keeper's Korner

Keeper isn't disappointed that March has arrived. March means spring is coming, which means digging holes outside! Don't worry, she isn't too busy to read:

- [Staying Sober after Treatment Ends](#). *The New York Times* (featuring two ABH members: SSTAR and Gosnold on Cape Cod). First of a two-part series.
- [Medicines to Keep Addictions Away](#). *The New York Times*. Second of the two-part series.
- [Young Minds Matter](#). New series from *The Huffington Post* designed to lead the conversation with children about mental and emotional health, so youngsters feel loved, valued and understood.



Keeper is always patient.

