



Analytics Improving Behavioral Health SM

NRI NEWSLETTER

The NRI Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication that brings together news and events relevant to our stakeholders of the public behavioral health system.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [NRI Day at NASMHPD Annual Meeting](#)
- [State News](#)
- [Research](#)
- [Free Educational Opportunities](#)
- [Funding & Awards](#)
- [Helpful Resources & Links of Interest](#)
- [NRI Leadership](#)

SPOTLIGHT

NRI Day at NASMHPD Annual Meeting

NRI, in collaboration with the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD), hosted a meeting of State Mental Health Agency Commissioners and Senior Agency Staff on Monday July 31, 2017. The invitation-only meeting offered an unprecedented opportunity for Senior Behavioral Health Leadership in the States to come together and discuss areas of mutual interest, share challenges across the systems of care, and identify solutions that have worked in peer States.

We have compiled summaries and presentations for each of the sessions presented. This week we're featuring summaries for five sessions, listed below. You can view all the recaps and presentations on the [NRI Day conference page](#).

NRI DAY at NASMHPD Annual 2017 Meeting

Opening Remarks

NRI Board President, Dr. Lorrie Rickman Jones kicked off NRI Day by recognizing the special relationship between NASMHPD and NRI and the unique make up and accomplishments of its board of directors. Executive Director/CEO, Tim Knettlner provided a history of that special relationship and some of the landmark studies that resulted. [Read the recap](#).

Trends in Forensic Patients in State Psychiatric Facilities: 1999-2016

Recent concern has arisen over the proportional increase in state hospitals' forensic patients. In this presentation, Vera Hollen, Senior Director of Research & Consulting, and Director of NRI's Mental Health/Criminal Justice Research Center discussed how states are implementing a broad diversity of approaches to help address the demand for forensic services within the state psychiatric hospitals. [Read the Recap](#).

Competency Evaluation and Restoration: Washington State Experience

In August 2014 the Trueblood v. Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) lawsuit was filed that resulted in the court giving Washington State 9 months to become compliant in admitting its defendants that have been court ordered to receive competency evaluations or restoration services at its state hospitals within 7 days of the court order being signed. [Read the Recap](#).

Strategies to Proactively Avoid Olmstead Lawsuits -- Lessons Learned from Two States Successfully Exiting Settlements

Staff from New Jersey and Delaware, two states that recently exited Settlement Agreements related to Olmstead violations, shared their experiences and lessons learned. [Read the recap.](#)

Rapid Science to Service: First Episode of Psychosis Programs Challenges and Strategies for Implementing Early Intervention for Psychosis in Rural County Systems

Adriana Furuzawa, Director of the PREP Division of the Felton Institute, provided an overview of the PREP program, its expansion in California, and some of their future plans. In particular, Ms. Furuzawa focused on implementing first episode psychosis treatment in rural areas. [Read the recap.](#)

STATE NEWS

Buffalo, New York Launches Nation's First Opioid Crisis Intervention Court

The nation's first opioid crisis intervention court has been launched in Buffalo, New York. The Opioid Crisis Intervention Court will ideally keep drug offenders from jail time, and instead offer them much-needed treatment. [Read more.](#)

North Carolina Child Welfare Services Implements NC FAST Pilot In Five Counties

Child welfare service offices in five North Carolina counties started using technology this week in a pilot project that will contribute to improving the safety, permanency and well-being of children and families. [Read more.](#)

Pennsylvania's Allegheny County Releases RFP For Family Residential Substance Use Disorder Treatment

Allegheny County is soliciting proposals to develop and manage an innovative recovery-oriented and trauma-informed residential drug treatment program for families with a parent in need of treatment for unhealthy substance use. [Learn more.](#)

HHS Secretary Waives Certain HIPAA Privacy Rule Provisions for Texas and Louisiana Hospitals

In response to Hurricane Harvey, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Tom Price, M.D., declared a public health emergency in Texas and Louisiana and has exercised the authority to waive sanctions and penalties against a Texas or Louisiana covered hospital that does not comply with the following provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy Rule. [Read more.](#)

RESEARCH

Making Smoking Cessation Work For People With Mental Illnesses And Other Vulnerable Populations

Smoking rates remain high among the most vulnerable populations, such as people with mental illnesses or substance use disorders, necessitating policies and strategies targeted specifically at them, as well as support for tobacco control at the federal, state, and local levels. [Read more.](#)

Special Probation for Prisoners with Mental Illness Cuts Recidivism

A new study suggests that specialized supervision on probation for people with mental illness can radically reduce the odds they'll be re-arrested within five years. [Read more.](#)

Psychotic Experiences Increase Risk of Suicidal Thoughts, Behaviors

Regardless of age, psychotic experiences can increase the likelihood that a person will think about, plan, and/or attempt suicide, according to a study published today in *JAMA Psychiatry*. [Read more.](#)

Need for Mental Health Services for Youth Found to Be Higher Than Previous Estimates

According to a study published in *Psychiatric Services*, an estimated 1 in 10 youth in the United States is in need of psychiatric treatment or referral to mental health services, [Read more](#).

FREE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

SEPTEMBER 12: Transitions Learning Community - Collaboration with Non-Mental Health Adult Systems

This session of the Transitions LC will focus on the interface between the children and adult systems, with a specific emphasis on how to approach partnership with adult systems that have not been previously discussed. [Register now](#).

SEPTEMBER 13: Improving Behavioral Health Integration through Culturally Appropriate Service Delivery

Join SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions (CIHS) to learn how culturally and linguistically competent behavioral health integrated care delivery models in primary care can improve the accessibility and the quality of physical and behavioral health services. [Register now](#).

SEPTEMBER 14: Creating Inclusive Higher Education Work Environments for People with Mental Health Disabilities

In coordination with the Higher Education Recruitment Consortium, the Department of Labor's Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion is hosting a webinar about effective approaches for ensuring that employees with mental health conditions can succeed on the job. Webinar participants will also learn about the importance of adopting an inclusive workplace culture that supports employee mental health and wellbeing. While this webinar is geared toward the higher education environment, much of the information that will be shared is applicable to employers in any industry. [Register now](#).

SEPTEMBER 21: Implementing Change: Working to Address the Intersections of Juvenile Justice and Youth Homelessness

Join Coalition for Juvenile Justice to learn how Philadelphia, Pa., and Minnesota are working to combat this cycle, and learn about the Principles for Change, a series of policy recommendations that communities and states can adopt to help address these intersections, and the application of these principles for youth in custody. [Register now](#).

SEPTEMBER 26: Teen Depression— What Schools and Parents Can Do When Help is Refused

This webinar, presented by Families for Depression Awareness is for Parents, Caregivers, Teachers, School Counselors and Staff, Youth Workers, and anyone interested in Teen Mental Health and will discuss how to identify depression in teens and intervene with effective communication techniques. [Register now](#).

SEPTEMBER 27: SOC Expansion Leadership LC: Beyond Impact Statements - Addressing Behavioral Health Disparities

This learning community session will focus on addressing behavioral health disparities in system of care (SOC) expansion. [Register now](#).

SEPTEMBER 27: From Pain to Promise – Addressing Opioids and Suicide in Communities across America

This event brings together public- and private-sector thought leaders to discuss potential solutions in reducing the burden of "deaths of despair," restoring hope, and saving lives in Communities across the country. [Register now](#).

FUNDING & AWARDS

AHRQ Announces Interest in Innovative Methods Research to Increase the Utility of Systematic Reviews

This Special Emphasis Notice (SEN) informs the research community that AHRQ intends to support research designed to develop innovative systematic review methods that address the opportunities and challenges of the current era of data abundance, and make systematic reviews both more efficient and salient. [Learn more.](#)

HELPFUL RESOURCES & LINKS OF INTEREST

[CMS Releases Second Set of Medicaid; CHIP Managed Care FAQs](#)

On August 18, CMS released its second set of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for the Medicaid and CHIP Managed Care Final Rule.

[NQF Measures Application Partnership Medicaid 2017 Final Reports Available](#)

The 2017 Measure Applications Partnership (MAP) Dual Eligible Beneficiaries, Medicaid Child, and Medicaid Adult final reports are now available.

[Behavioral Health Measures 2016-2017](#)

This NQF project seeks to endorse measures for improving the delivery of behavioral health services, achieving better behavioral health outcomes, and improving the behavioral health of the U.S. population, especially those with mental illness and substance abuse.

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