

Provider Forum Series Sponsored by CT BHP and CHA to Continue in 2023

Throughout 2022, the Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership and the Connecticut Hospital Association presented a series of professional forums on cutting-edge issues facing providers today. Each offered Continuing Medical Education (CME), and Continuing Education Unit (CEU) credits at no cost.

The series began on June 7, with the forum ***Gender Affirming Care for Transgender and Nonbinary Youth and Young Adults***. It featured leading experts in gender identity and expression and their intersectionality with race, mental health, and the environment. As with all the forums, clinical presentations were followed by a panel of guest speakers, in this case, individuals with unique gender journeys. The forum attracted 875 participants, with survey respondents giving the session an average score of nearly 5 (on a 5-point scale) for meeting its educational objectives. Many commented -that it was the only training on this subject matter they had found in the state. You can view the forum [here](#).

On September 21, CT BHP and CHA hosted ***Prevention and Treatment: Substance Use Disorder Services for Youth and Young Adults***. Leading experts explored the epidemiology of SUD among youth/young adults and best practices in treatment and prevention for this population. The panel included five Connecticut providers sharing their real-world experiences, unique interventions, and clinical outcomes. This forum had 372 participants, with survey respondents providing an average score of nearly 5 out of 5 (CEU survey) and 96.5% satisfaction (CME survey). You can view the forum [here](#).

Understanding and Promoting Health Equity in the Treatment of Substance Use followed on December 2nd, attracting 336 participants. Lead presenters were Fabiola Arbelo-Cruz, MD (she/her/hers), Attending Addiction Psychiatrist at the Connecticut Mental Health Center (CMHC) in New Haven, CT, and Michelle P. Durham, MD, MPH, FAPA, DFAACAP, Vice Chair of Education in the Department of Psychiatry at Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM)/Boston Medical Center (BMC). They explored historical inequities in SUD Treatment; definitions of Disparity, Inequality, Inequity, and Racism; and strategies for assessing, diagnosing, and treating SUD in racial and ethnic minorities. The panel included representatives from community SUD providers and resources. You can view the forum [here](#).

The CT BHP and CHA are in the planning stages for their 2023 Provider Forum series. If you have any suggestions for topics, please forward them to Dan Langless, daniel.langless@beaconhealthoptions.com.