

CRAIN'S **Health Pulse**

Behavioral care agencies to form management services organization

Manhattan-based Coordinated Behavioral Care has partnered with Coordinated Behavioral Health Services in the Hudson Valley to form a management services organization to support community providers across the state.

CBC is a nonprofit that operates both a citywide independent practice association and a health home. CBHS is made up of nonprofit behavioral health and disability service providers that serve seven counties in the Hudson Valley region.

The 50-50 venture—Innovative Management Solutions NY, or IMSNY—initially will offer a data warehouse and business information behavioral health providers can use to better aggregate data, focus more on population health and identify high-risk patients, said Dr. Jorge Petit, CEO of CBC.

Last year Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced \$60 million in awards over three years for networks of providers called behavioral health care collaboratives to transition to a business model of value-based payment as part of the state's Medicaid transformation.

"We want to make sure those finite dollars go a long way," Petit said of forming the management services organization. IMSNY could expand to credentialing, contracting, training and other services down the line.

Partnering with CBHS was essential in forming the management services organization, Petit added. "For any agency to do it alone is very expensive," he said.

CBHS CEO Richard Tuten echoed that sentiment. "As the administrative burden on providers increases as a result of state-level health care transformation initiatives, providers will need to find efficient, effective and integrated solutions to a wide range of problems," he said in a statement. "We will be working with our colleagues around the state to identify other needs we can address with this powerful collaboration."