

## Visionary Voices Conference Convenes Over 900 Leaders

“We were so pleased by this year’s conference turn-out” said i2i’s Executive Director Mary Hooper. With over 735 registered attendees and another 200+ exhibitor participants, the event was very well attended.

“As this was the i2i Center’s inaugural year, we were hopeful that our attendance would be strong and representative of all parts of the systems in which we work and people receive services...though we weren’t entirely sure. Once sponsorships and registrations started rolling in, the support and interest in this year’s conference and content were extremely reassuring and indicated that i2i is on the right track and suggested that the conference would be a real success. The mix of leaders and stakeholders that attended from all segments of the system was very encouraging. We had lots of private MCO participation, State DHHS and Division(s) leadership, large hospital system folks, LME/MCO leaders, Advocates, Consumers, University representation, and others. We really are very grateful that so many people came together and hope it was a valuable learning experience and productive networking opportunity.” said Hooper.

Some of the highly attended sessions focused on integrated care, leadership, value-based purchasing/contracting, legal and regulatory issues in managed care, and incorporating peer support into services to improve care. In addition, DHHS Medicaid leadership held a meeting with over 350 in attendance that focused on how the state will be engaging providers in the Tailored Plan for MH/IDD/SUD services.

Another well attended session was led by Kody Kinsley, NC DHHS Deputy Secretary for Behavioral Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. In his General Session titled *Transforming the Public MH/I-DD/SUD System to Whole Person Care*, Kinsley addressed over 400 registrants and provided information regarding the State’s plans to integrate their Divisions across the system to address whole person care.

In addition, the pre-con *Provider Success Symposium* that focused on critical issues providers should be working to address in preparation for outcome based services, contracting with private managed care organizations under the standard plan, and much more saw about 100 provider leader participants.

The Community Inclusion: I’m IN launch was also a big success, with over 100 individuals participating to learn how to stimulate more innovative ways to include people with mental illness in their communities. Participants brainstormed images of what success will look like in their community in within three-to-five years. Participants were also encouraged to apply to become Pilot Partners with the I’m IN: Community Inclusion initiative and to share ideas, strategies, and successes. Any local network or group may apply. The application is available at <https://i2icenter.org/project/im-in-community-inclusion/>

If you would like to download conference session handouts, complete evaluations, see exhibitor participants, review the full program, and view the Conference Photos, go to our Conference webpage <https://i2icenter.org/events/conference/>

Plan for next year – December 4-6, 2019!