

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EMPOWERMENT TEAM

Thank you to All the Social Workers Who Serve and Help to Make Life Better for our MHDDSAS Consumers and Families!

NCDHHS- DMH/DD/SAS

Community Updates |March 2021

Get the SCOOP for Stress

Strategies for Stress Management in Challenging Times

Join the UNC-TV Live Stream Events on the Governor's Institute's Facebook Page: facebook.com/GovInst/

And get the **#SCOOP4Stress** with the NC DHHS DMHDDSAS Stress Management Series

Tuesday, February 2, 2021	Stay Connected
Tuesday, February 16, 2021	Compassion for Self and Others
Tuesday, March 2, 2021	Observe Use of Substances
Tuesday, March 16, 2021	Ok to Ask for Help
Tuesday, March 30, 2021	Physical Activity

Go to ncdhhs.gov/stress-management for a description of each event.

DEI Lunch & Learn Series



Veterans HOPE Program

"*Healing Outreach Partnerships for Empowerment* (HOPE) was developed 2 years ago by the ABCCM Veterans Services of the Carolinas (VSC) in collaboration with NCDHHS/DMH to provide extensive outreach services to the most vulnerable Veterans in North Carolina– unsheltered homeless Veterans suffering from Serious Mental Illnesses (SMI) such as TBI,PTSD and MST. This program and model successfully create positive relationships harnessing Peer Support Specialist to connect this marginalized population o community services and resources, simultaneously ad dressing homelessness and the mental health conditions that cause it." Brandon Wilson, Director, Veterans Services of the Carolinas.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DH1OO1XsRpCvqGTcCP9oAm03jeKkY0eN/view

Medicaid Transformation

NC Medicaid Transition to Managed Care for Community Partners the Beneficiary Experience

3-4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 10, 2021

The Department of Health and Human Services is committed to ensuring a smooth transition for the 1.6 million Medicaid beneficiaries who will be moving to Medicaid Managed Care. We are approaching a key milestone as open enrollment for NC Medicaid Managed Care begins on March 15, 2021.

Please join NC Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Mandy Cohen, M.D.; Secretary for NC Medicaid Dave Richards; Assistant Secretary for NC Medicaid Jay Ludlam and other senior leaders as we provide an update on key dates and resources for beneficiaries as they choose a health plan under Medicaid Managed Care. There will also be an opportunity to submit questions for the panelists.

Registration is required. Feel free to share the webinar invitation and registration link with other community partners interested in attending. A recording of the webinar will be available following the event and posted on the NC Medicaid website.

Click to Register

Send questions to Medicaid.NCEngagement@dhhs.nc.gov

Brain Injury Awareness Month

Save the Date for TBI Tuesdays in March

Please join the Administration for Community Living (ACL) this March in observance of Brain Injury Awareness Month. In lieu of ACL's annual in-person TBI Stakeholder Day, we will be hosting virtual Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) . If you have any questions about this event, please contact tbitarc@hsri.org.

Go to the Brain Injury Association of America to get involved : https://www.biausa.org

Outreach to All: Brain Injury within Underserved Populations
March 9, 2021, 1:00 - 4:00 pm ET
Register for the session

Sustainable Partnerships: Forging Relationships that Last
March 16, 2021, 1:00 - 4:00 pm ET
Register for the session

Return to Learn: Equal Access to Education for Students with Brain Injury
March 23, 2021, 1:00 - 4:00 pm ET
Register for the session

Justice for All: Serving Individuals with Brain Injury Across the Justice System
March 30, 2021, 1:00 - 4:00 pm ET
Register for the session

Traumatic Brain Injury

A TBI grant survey is currently posted requesting input from stake holders on what they think should be the focus of the grant proposal for the upcoming new TBI grant federal funding opportunity. Anyone interested in participating in this anonymous survey can do so here: TBI Grant Focus Survey

A national survey is being conducted with Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors statewide to determine their knowledge, skill and ability in working with individuals living with TBI. Follow up training opportunities will be offered to strengthen their skill in the field.

A webinar was held entitled "Untangling the Complex Relationship between Suicide and Brain Injury". Interested individuals can access the free recording here: Watch Recording

A free two part webinar series focused on TBI & Behavioral Health will be presented in March by a national expert in the field.

March is Brain Injury Awareness month. Stay tuned for events and activities. For more information please call 984-236-5040, email TBIContact@dhhs.nc.gov or visit https://www.ncdhhs.gov/

"So There is a TBI Webinar "

Save the Date : Part 2

March 10, 12:00 – 1:30 PM

Participants are encouraged to view Part 1: "What If There's a TBI" webinar before joining this live, interactive follow-up session with more information on strategies and accommodations for problem-solving challenging neurobehavioral issues.

Details for both webinars available by March 1 here: https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/disability-services/traumatic-brain-injury

Disability Awareness Month



Each March, the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD), and our partners work together to create a social media campaign that highlights the many ways in which people with and without disabilities come together to form strong, diverse communities.

The campaign seeks to raise awareness about the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in all facets of community life, as well as awareness of the barriers that people with disabilities still sometimes face in connecting to the communities in which they live.

Please go to the NACDD web set to get involved , find resources and flyers to be download and used for your events. The Resource guide will be updated every Monday so make sure that you are checking back.
If you have any questions, comments or concerns don't hesitate to contact :

Robin Troutman: rtroutman@nacdd.org

Rafael Rolon-Muniz: rrolon-muniz@nacdd.org

North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities

The NC Council on Developmental Disabilities will be launching their March Disability Awareness Month. Please visit their website and stay tuned for more information!

https://nccdd.org/

Traumatic Brain Injury

ecac exceptional children's assistance center
Empowering Families ★ Improving Lives



ECAC is currently trying to determine and better meet the needs of the individuals and families that we serve and would appreciate your input. Our needs assessment will serve as a vital tool for our program planning, as it provides us with valuable information to guide our services. There are a total of 7 questions and it should take less than 5 minutes.

CLICK HERE TO TAKE THE SURVEY

COVID-19 Vaccine Training



Community Engagement & Empowerment Team members are trained and ready to provide crucial COVID-19 Vaccine Training to you and your community. Community groups such as CFACs, faith-based, and other community organizations can receive this training virtually by request. Our team will help make the process easy by setting up the virtual event and managing registrations.

Contact us by email to schedule: CEandE.Staff@dhhs.nc.gov.

Monthly Meetings

CONSUMER & PROVIDER CALLS:

Joint DMHDDSAS & DHB COVID-19 Update: Consumers & Family Members
Monday, March 1, 2021 at 2 pm
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8328655858054727694

Joint DMHDDSAS & DHB COVID-19 Update: Providers
Thursday, March 4, 2021
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8189378521146993164

Regional CFAC Meetings

Alliance, Eastpointe, Sandhills and Trillium
March 15, 2021, 6 pm – 7:30 pm
Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or mobile app
Click here to join the meeting
Or call in (audio only)
+1 984-204-1487,,72477081# United States, Raleigh
Phone Conference ID: 724 770 81#

Cardinal, Partners and Vaya
March 23, 2021, 6 pm – 7:30 pm
Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or mobile app
Click here to join the meeting
Or call in (audio only)
+1 984-204-1487,,16351470# United States, Raleigh
Phone Conference ID: 163 514 70#

Opportunities for Participation

Medicaid Transformation

If you are interest in our webinar on NC Medicaid's Transition to Managed Care for Community Partners. We have posted a recording of it along with the presentation to our website. These items may be found here.

If you have any questions or problems accessing the site, contact us at Medicaid.Transformation@dhhs.nc.gov.

Here are some additional sites that you may go to find more information on Medicaid Transformation:

https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/transformation
https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/transformation/more-information

Olmstead Listening Sessions

Learn more about NC Olmstead and get information on the on-going listening sessions by clicking on the link:

https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mental-health-developmental-disabilities-and-substance-abuse/nc-olmstead

Grant Opportunities

https://tinyurl.com/DMHDDSAS-Grants

Peer Support Specialist

If you are interested in becoming a Peer Support Specialist, online training options are available! To find an online course, please visit https://pss.unc.edu/training.

State CFAC

Nothing About Us, Without Us.



The **State Consumer and Family Advisory Committee (CFAC)** meeting is on the 2nd Wednesday of every month and is open to the public. Due to COVID-19, all State CFAC meetings will be held as webinars until further notice. Suzanne Thompson will be supporting SCFAC from March—May 2021; contact Suzanne by email for more information on the meetings.

Next Meeting: **Wednesday**, **March 10, 2021**

Time: **9:00 am to 1 pm**

Join by web browser:
https://tinyurl.com/StateCFACMeeting
Call-in: +1-415-655-0003
Access Code: 171 378 2076

Local CFAC Updates

Local CFACs are meeting again in March , check with your LME/MCO to get full calendar and meeting details, including how to connect with those virtual meetings.

Click on the directory link to find your LME/MCO: https://www.ncdhhs.gov/providers/lme-mco-directory

State to Local Collaboration



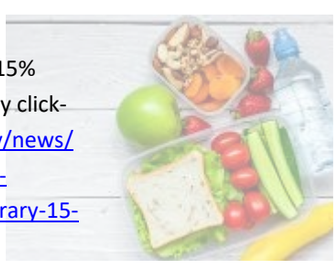
The State to Local Collaboration Call will resume the regular schedule of every **4th Wednesday** of the month. CFAC members can use the same Phone Number and Conference ID for each meeting. Links to participate by web will be sent out before each meeting. The call-in number and conference ID will not change.

Next Call: March 24, 2021
https://tinyurl.com/S2L-CollaborationCall
+1-415-655-0003
Conference ID: 171 710 7705

Medicaid Transformation: Ombudsman Update

Legal Aid of North Carolina (Legal Aid) will provide Medicaid Managed Care Ombudsman services for the state's Medicaid beneficiaries beginning in Spring 2021. Legal Aid, partnering with the Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy and Pisgah Legal Services, will serve as a central resource to educate and inform beneficiaries about the state's move to Medicaid Managed Care through outreach events, a public website and a toll-free phone number. The Ombudsman will also help resolve issues within the Medicaid Managed Care delivery system.

More information about the Ombudsman will be available soon on the NC Medicaid website.



Food and Nutrition Service Recipients to Receive Temporary 15% Increase in Benefits. Learn more by clicking here: https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/food-and-nutrition-services-recipients-receive-temporary-15-increase-benefits

NC One Community In Recovery

Nominations are now being accepted for NC Recovery Champion and Youth/Young Adult Voice Awards! Award recipients will be recognized at this year's NC" One Community in Recovery" Virtual conference., taking place **June 9-11, 2021.**

Please consider nominating someone in the community who demonstrates exceptional work promoting mental health and / or substance use recovery and please share this information with anyone who may also be interested. Visit our webpage and submit a nomination by March 26th, 2021. Any question can be directed to Nicole Ness.

Congrats Director Armstrong!

Victor Armstrong
2020 H. Keith Brunnemer, Jr. Award Winner for Outstanding Mental Health Leadership



Mental Health of America of Central Carolinas (MHA) annual recognizes a community partner who has made outstanding contributions within the field of mental health during the previous year. Victor Armstrong was named for his Mental Health Leadership, professionally and personally as a tireless advocate. Victor is the Director Division of Mental Health at NC Department of Health and Human Services.

Veterans, Servicemembers & Families

Want to learn more about services for Veterans in North Carolina? Go to NC Governor's Working Group and explore the site- you'll find out more about the Interactive Retreat Center near Fort Bragg, the monthly NCGWG meetings (including how to view them on Facebook), workshops, economic, health and COVID-19 related issues pertaining to related to Veterans and their families.

For more information, contact Jeff Smith, Military and Veterans Program Liaison, by email at Jeff.Smith@dhhs.nc.gov.





On September 22, 2020 NC DHHS launched the "SlowCOVIDNC" App to help North Carolinians to slow the spread of the virus by alerting them when they may have been exposed to someone who has tested positive. Read the full press release and get the link to download the app by clicking here: https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/ncdhhs-launches-slowcovidnc-exposure-notification-app-available-download-today

Watch a video about the app here: https://youtu.be/Yny36M_aqfw

To download now, click on the icon that best represents your device. Click "Install" or "Get" and follow the directions to get started.

Available on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

VSC Veterans Stand down Schedule 2021

March 19th—HVRP—Piedmont—NCWorks Career Center—2701 University Pkw Winston– Salem, NC 27105 — Archie Barrow Piedmont Regional Coordinator Archie.barrow@abccm.org

March 19th — HVRP - East — Cape Fear Community College 411 N. Front St Wilmington, NC 28401 —- Tim Driscoll—Network Relations Coordinator—Tim.driscoll@abccm.org

March 23rd — HVRP –East — First United Presbyterian Church 302 Moore St Fayetteville, NC 28301 — Derek Pavlosky—Eastern Regional Coordinator— Derek.pavlosky@abccm.org

March 26th — HVRP –Piedmont— TBD Charlotte, NC — Maurice Collins —Foothills Regional Coordinator–Maurice.collins@abccm.org

April 16th — HVRP– West — Catawba Valley Community College Tarlton Complex 2550 US HWY 70 SE, Hickory, NC 28602 — John Helton Case Manager John.helton@abccm.org

April 29th — HVRP-West — Robert C. Carpenter Building 1288 Georgia Rd. Franklin, NC 28734 — Tera Jabs— Western Regional Coordinator— Tera.jabs@abccm.org

Community Engagement & Empowerment Team

The Division of MH/DD/SAS, Community Engagement and Empowerment team provides education, training, and technical assistance to internal and external organizations and groups to facilitate community inclusion and meaningful engagement of persons with lived MH/DD/SUD experience across HHS policy making, program development, and service delivery systems. Learn more at: https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/mental-health-substance-abuse/community-empowerment-and-engagement