Welcome

The Montefiore Hudson Valley Collaborative (MHVC) newsletter strives to keep you up-to-date on relevant DSRIP activities, events and resources.

MHVC & Partners Attend NYAPRS Conference

April’s NY Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (NYAPRS) annual executive seminar, “Beyond Survival to Success”, brought together over 250 community providers, health plans, health homes, performing provider systems and state agencies. The event provided a platform for in depth discussions into issues like poverty and homelessness, that complicate New York’s efforts to implement an integrated managed care system.

Panelists and attendees candidly discussed the challenges that community behavioral health organizations and nonprofits face as they prepare for contracting with managed care organizations. One of the highlights of the conference was a provocative panel discussion called “Can Non-Profits Survive and Succeed?” Two of our MHVC partners, Amy Kohn of Mental Health Association of Westchester and Steve Miccio of PEOPLe, Inc. (pictured), contributed to the lively discussion. MHVC medical director, Damara Gutnick encouraged attendees to share their ideas on how DSRIP can support their journey to value based payment. She identified the potential for MHVC to provide education and technical support on using data to drive quality improvement.

Dr. Bruce Rapkin Joins HRD-PHC

We are excited to welcome Dr. Bruce Rapkin of Albert Einstein School of Medicine to the Hudson Region DSRIP Public Health Council (HRD-PHC). Dr. Rapkin’s research focuses on community based cancer prevention strategies. Dr. Rapkin will assist the HRD-PHC by providing technical assistance to community based organizations with the Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) method to improve tobacco cessation and cancer prevention efforts. This method will enhance partner’s ability to track outcome measures which are the pathway to participation in value based arrangements. Our partners, Planned Parenthood of Mid-Hudson Valley and Planned Parenthood Hudson Peconic will participate in the initial PDSA program.

You’re the Star on “3rd Friday”

In April, representatives from the Hudson Valley Care Coalition and HRHCare did a great webinar on New York State Health Homes. The webinar was designed to build overall awareness, explain how to make referrals and patient eligibility requirements. The next MHVC “3rd Friday” Partner Spotlight webinar is scheduled for May 20 at 11:00 a.m. To suggest a topic or maybe even appear in an upcoming webinar contact Chelsea-Lyn Rudder, our communications manager.
MAX Teams are in Motion

Clinicians and Patients Create Grassroots Change

The Medicaid Accelerated eXchange, or MAX program is a multidisciplinary collaboration that puts clinicians in the driver’s seat to facilitate change. MAX brings together eight to ten providers and in some cases patients, to form “Action Teams”. These groups learn performance management tools and use data to drive transformation within their pilot sites. The effort focuses on specific providers within a performing provider system to generate change and enable greater impact on overall DSRIP metrics and local improvement measures. MHVC partners, St. Joseph’s Medical Center, Cornerstone Family Healthcare, Access Supports for Living and St. Luke’s Cornwall are working on emergency department “Super Utilizer” MAX teams. Access Supports for Living and HRHCare are working on the integration of primary care into a behavioral health outpatient setting.

MHVC Presents at Hudson Valley Healthcare Legislative Breakfast

On April 21, Allison McGuire, executive director of MHVC, gave a programmatic and engagement overview to an audience of Hudson Valley legislators, their staff members and representatives from community based organizations. Sponsored by the Hudson Valley Access to Healthcare Coalition the event provided an opportunity for legislators and civic groups to learn more about DSRIP and the ways the program will impact local communities and constituents. Assembly members Sandra Galef and Thomas J. Abinanti, who sit on the state assembly’s health committee, were in attendance.

Support for HIE Implementation

The New York State Department of Health has worked with CMS to develop the Data Exchange Incentive Program. The program offers financial help to increase health information exchange implementation across the state. The program application and helpful factsheets are available on HealthlinkNY’s website.

Regardless of where you are in connecting to the RHIO, your organization can apply for the program. If you have questions about the program please contact HealthlinkNY directly.

Resources

- MHVC Website
- NY State DSRIP Website
- DSRIP, Opt-Out Talking Points for Healthcare Providers
- Nov. 2015- Welcome to Phase 2: Implementation, MHVC Webinar
- MHVC Subcommittee Panels
- Labor Management Project DSRIP Video
- DOH Value Based Payment Video, English or Spanish
- What the Heck is Value Based Purchasing? Video
- PTN Grant Letter of Intent
- Cultural Competency & Health Literacy Repository
- Jan. 2016 NYS Project Approval Oversight Panel
Spring Forward!  
**New Newsletter Publication Schedule**

You may have noticed this is the May edition of our newsletter. Don’t worry, you didn’t miss April’s issue. We want the newsletter to feel current, for it to give you a few MHVC activities to look forward to in the coming month. So, we decided to spring forward into May. If you have an idea or submission for the newsletter please contact Chelsea-Lyn Rudder.

**A Warm Welcome to our New Team Members**

**Tawana Howard-Eddings**  
*Director of Practice Transformation*  
thowardde@montefiore.org

In her role as director of practice transformation Tawana will help engage a diverse array of PPS partners in practice transformation and assist in managing clinical DSRIP projects. Tawana has 29 years of nursing experience and 16 years of leadership experience. Most recently Tawana worked as part of the leadership team at Montefiore Medical Center’s Hutchinson campus. Tawana was responsible for the clinical operations of 14 specialties within the building.

Prior to working at the “Hutch” Tawana worked for the Department of Medicine overseeing the daily clinical operations of nine faculty practice sites. Tawana has a Master’s Degree in Nursing Administration from the College of New Rochelle, a Bachelor’s degree in Nursing from The State University of New York Downstate Medical Center and a Lean Six Sigma Certification from Villanova University.

**Natalee Hill**  
*Director of Quality & Innovation*  
nahill@montefiore.org

Natalee Hill joins MHVC with over 11 years of experience in quality and performance improvement in the life sciences industry and healthcare. In her role as director of quality and innovation, Natalee is responsible for engaging a diverse array of MHVC PPS partners including hospitals, FQHC’s, primary care practices and community based providers in quality and performance improvement activities. Her experience includes the application of LEAN, Six Sigma and PDSA to implement process redesign and operationalize QPI strategic plans at the hospital and network level. Natalee has led quality and performance improvement initiatives at the Bronx James J. Peters Veterans Affairs Hospital, NY/NJ VA Hospital Network and most recently at NewYork-Presbyterian Regional Hospital Network. At NewYork-Presbyterian, Natalee’s work involved evaluating quality and performance improvement infrastructure at system hospitals for strategic alignment, development of the quality and performance improvement strategic plan for managing system hospitals at the corporate level and managing the implementation of 2015 system quality and patient safety goals across five hospitals.

Natalee holds an MPA degree in Health Services Management from Mercy College and a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Pace University.