



ABH August Committee Meetings

Monday, August 2
e-Health, 9:30 a.m.
Framingham Public Library

Tuesday, August 3
ATS, 10 a.m.

Friday, August 6
Children's Policy, 10 a.m.

Friday, August 13
Corporate Compliance, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, August 17
Methadone, 9:30 a.m.

Friday, August 20
DAE/SOA, 10 a.m.

All meetings are at ABH unless otherwise noted. For more information, call 508-647-8385.

Patrick Pens Vetoes

Each year, ABH closely monitors the state budget and its impact on ABH members. On June 30th, Governor Patrick signed the FY 2011 state budget into law, while making approximately \$457.6 million in vetoes. \$372 million of the \$457.6 million in vetoes are due to the unrealized extension of the expanded Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rates.

- The Governor vetoed \$9.5 million from the Department of Mental Health. Included in this is a \$6.4 million cut to inpatient services, which may force DMH to close approximately 100 state operated inpatient beds.
- The Governor vetoed \$3.4 million from the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services. These cuts will not impact the state's Maintenance of Effort requirement (the minimum amount of funding required to secure federal funding).
- The Governor vetoed \$17.9 million from the Department of Children and Families.
- The Governor did not veto the Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention Fund or the section requiring the Patrick Administration to report on the implementation of Chapter 257.

ABH will continue to be in touch with the Legislature and the Administration and will keep members updated as we learn more about the impact of these vetoes.

Case Dismissed



On June 21, 2010, the US District Court for the District of Columbia dismissed the lawsuit filed by the Coalition for Parity, Inc. (Magellan, Beacon Health Strategies and Value Options) against the federal government. The suit sought to prevent application of the interim final rules on The Wellstone-Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (MHPAEA). The full opinion is available [here](#).

Five Forum Fun

The Department of Children and Families and the Department of Mental Health are holding five (5) public forums to receive information on the Community – Based Residential Services redesign. The goals of the forums are to discuss and solicit information for the Children's Community - Based Residential Services procurement. This information is listed on [Comm-PASS](#), as well as the Executive Office of Health and Human Services Ch. 257 [website](#).

One forum is for family members who previously or currently have had children involved in residential programs, as well as youth who have been involved. The other forums are intended for providers. The forums will focus on questions posed in the RFI, soon to be issued, and are intended to help inform the design of services. Formal community feedback must be submitted in writing through the Request for Information process.

The forums will be held as follows:

Date and Time	Location
Family and Youth Forum July 13, 2010 10:00 – 1:00	Shrewsbury, MA Hoagland Pincus Conference Center 222 Maple Avenue
Provider Forum July 20, 2010 9:30 - 12:00	Taunton, MA Taunton State Hospital Ricky Silvia Recreation Center (Gym)
Provider Forum July 27, 2010 9:30 – 12:00	Worcester, MA Worcester Public Library 3 Salem Square Main Library - Saxe Room
Provider Forum August 4, 2010 9:30 – 12:00	Bedford, MA Middlesex Community College 591 Springs Road Cafe East - Building #8
Provider Forum August 5, 2010 9:30 – 12:00	Boston, MA John Adams Courthouse Second Floor Conference Suite

Check it Out!

ABH has placed all of its meeting information — committee meetings, Association Meetings, and special events — on one calendar that is easily accessible on the ABH website. Event, time, location, and even maps and directions — it's all there. Visit <http://www.abhmass.org/site/events-a-meetings.html>. (To create a log-in, just use your work email address.)

The media spends a great deal of time focusing on drunk driving, but not nearly as much on drugged driving.

One of the goals of the Office of National Drug Control Policy's [2010 Drug Control Strategy](#) is to reduce drugged driving by 15%.

For more information, click [here](#).

For a fact sheet on drugged driving, click [here](#).



e-Health Interoperability

Change is Afoot

Department of Mental Health Commissioner Barbara Leadholm has named the following individuals to the Area psychiatric leadership teams as part of the DMH Redesign Initiative.

These assignments are effective July 1.

Metro-Southeast Area

Dr. Susan Skea, Area Medical Director

Dr. Robert Karr,
Senior Psychiatrist

Northeast-Suburban Area

Dr. David Hoffman,
Area Medical Director

Dr. Ken Mitchell,
Senior Psychiatrist

Central-West Area

Dr. Dale Rauch, Area Medical Director

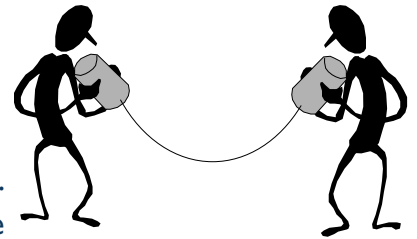
Dr. Stuart Anfang, Area Medical Director for the former Western Massachusetts Area, is leaving DMH as of July 31. Dr Anfang has agreed to provide clinical consultation and support until a senior psychiatrist is named.

Imagine you are entering a progress note for outpatient therapy into your Electronic Health Record.

You enter your name, staff number, client's name, the date, service code, start and stop time for the session. You are now ready to complete your note.

Once you are done, you pull out your paper Service

Activity Log (SAL), and write the same exact information you just data-entered, wondering to yourself – why can't our EHR and Billing systems talk to each other? What you have just described is the need for Interoperability.



ABH's e-Health Committee met on June 2 to discuss interoperability between Electronic Health Records and Billing Systems. ABH Associate members from Hill Associates, The Echo Group, iCcentrix and eHana participated in a panel discussion. Interoperability is the ability of different software programs to exchange data. As more organizations adopt Electronic Health Records (EHR), critical decisions must be made about replacing or integrating their existing billing systems. The consensus among the Committee was that integration between systems is very possible and in many cases, desirable.

The dataset needed from the EHR by the Billing system is relatively small and manageable. To make the exchange happen, both the EHR and Billing vendor must be willing to cooperate. Equally important is a thorough exploration and understanding of your organization's work flow processes. What is the origin of the data? Who has authority to make changes? Which system, Billing or EHR, will send and which will receive? Understanding and defining your organization's business rules is key to developing a successful data exchange process.

But why stop at data exchange between EHR and Billing systems? In the future we will need to deal with integrating credentialing data (sometimes in HR, sometimes in Billing), e-prescribing, incidents, Payroll, G/L, etc. Organizations, such as the Software and Technology Vendors Association (SATVA) are working on a protocol for exchanging information called a Continuity of Care Document (CCD).

The e-Health Committee will be discussing Continuity of Care Documents and other topics in future meetings including developing a Risk Assessment to determine if a data loss constitutes a breach; EHR Audit trail standards; and Portable Media Policies, with an emphasis on encryption. Committee meetings are open to all ABH members. Scheduled meetings are set for August 2, October 4, and December 6. The Committee meets at the Framingham Public Library from 9:30 – 11:30. For more more information, contact Debra Blair, Committee Chair, at dblair@riversideecc.org or Jordan Oshlag, staff to the Committee, at Jordan@SolutionsinBH.com.

Privacy Protections

The Substance Abuse Confidentiality Regulations, 42 CFR Part 2, pertain to the use and disclosure of substance abuse client records at federally-funded substance use disorder programs. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for Health Information Technology recently released *Frequently Asked Questions for Applying the Substance Abuse Confidentiality Regulations to the Health Information Exchange (HIE)*. While this is not meant to provide legal advice, the FAQs provide valuable information as providers implement electronic health records and participate in health information exchanges.

To read the FAQ, click [here](#).

For more information, visit: <http://www.samhsa.gov/HealthPrivacy/>.

Wonks Worth Reading

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [Unintentional Drug Poisoning in the United States](#). The report states that "the increase in drug overdose death rates is largely because of prescription opioid painkillers."
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [Emergency Department Visits Involving Nonmedical Use of Selected Prescription Drugs --- United States, 2004-2008](#).
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation. [Re-Forming Reform: What Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Means for Massachusetts](#). According to this new report, implementation of national health reform will direct billions of new federal dollars into the Massachusetts health care system, expand public coverage to reach more of the state's residents, and has the potential to help the state reach its cost containment and quality of care goals. To view a presentation on this report by Robert Seifert of the Center for Law and Economics at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, click [here](#).
- Bazelon Center on Mental Health Law. [Resources on the Final Health Care Reform Law](#). These documents examine how the new federal health care reform law will impact mental health policy, services and benefits.
- A study by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) found that a program designed to "ensure that eligible individuals with serious mental illness were enrolled in Medicaid upon discharge from state correctional facilities, increased Medicaid enrollment among this group by 15 percent." Click [here](#) to read more.



**Save the
Date!**

**ABH Provider
Celebration**

**Friday,
October 8, 2010**
from 8:00-2:30
Westin Waltham Hotel

Please join us in celebrating the accomplishments of those who have made outstanding contributions to community-based behavioral healthcare

Know someone who deserves to be recognized for their outstanding work?

Nominate them! It's easy, we promise...just email [Jessica Kirkpatrick](mailto:Jessica.Kirkpatrick) for a copy of the nomination form.

Questions?

Please contact Jessica Kirkpatrick by phone at 508-647-8385 x16 or via email at jkirkpatrick@ABHmass.org

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Storming the Hill



On June 29 and 30, an ABH delegation traveled to Washington, DC to participate in the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare's 6th annual Hill Day. While there, the group attended National Council policy committee meetings, met with Senator Brown, and Congressman McGovern and with staff from Senator Kerry's office, as well as staff from Congressman Frank's office, Congressman Capuano's office, Congressman Neal's office and Congressman Olver's office. A whirlwind two days, for sure, but an unforgettable experience as well.

Procurements!

What would the ABH e-update be without an update on procurements? Just plain boring, that's what.

Anyway...The Notice of Intent to publish the DMH Flex Supports Request for Response (RFR) was posted on [Comm-PASS](#) at the end of June. The actual RFR will be published on August 1st with implementation scheduled for January 1, 2011.

In addition, the Department of Mental Health RFR for Clubhouses has been delayed until mid-November of 2010 with a start date of July 1, 2011.

Summer School

We know it's July, but that doesn't mean that we can forget about math for a few months. This e-update writer couldn't have been the only one with a mom who believed that math was a 365-day a year affair. Babbling aside, every so often ABH likes to provide our members with an update on MassHealth enrollment data. Here you go:

PROGRAM/PLAN	Enrollment 12-31-2009	Enrollment 5-31-2010	Difference (+) (-)
Fee For Service	450,060	492,458	(+) 42,398
PCC Plan	312,822	261,237	(-) 51,585
BMC HealthNet	184,890	180,889	(-) 4,001
Fallon CHP	12,224	11,730	(-) 494
NHP	139,862	138,581	(-) 1,281
Network Health	112,596	111,509	(-) 1,087
TOTAL	1,212,454	1,196,404	(-) 16,050