



Behavioral Health Integration Newsletter

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Statewide Integration of Behavioral Health in North Carolina

The savings that the medical home model can deliver, when implemented at the state level can be eye-popping. Community Care of North Carolina is a private non-profit company managing Medicaid services for the state. The organization grew out of state and foundation funded efforts to build community networks with broad physician participation, the support of social service organizations providing care management and technical assistance and data services directly supported by the state. In three years, the program is estimated to have saved 1.5 billion dollars for N.C. Medicaid. [See the history of CCNC.](#)

Now, CCNC is joining forces with a second major private health plan (Aetna) to implement integrated care throughout the statewide network. The infrastructure of CCNC including alternative payment models allows this to be an exciting partnership and an opportunity for better healthcare for thousands of patients new to the network. [View the partnership.](#)

New Training Resources

The Primary Care Behavioral Health Workforce Development Team has made it easy for behavioral health professionals to find online training programs in Integrated Primary Care. [Here are some programs that we think do a particularly good job.](#) We have also constructed a list of online training programs for people who are already working who don't want to leave their job, but want to obtain a degree. These programs would allow one to work in a primary care setting, while keeping his/her full time job. The majority of these training programs are based online and can be completed at the student's convenience. Some placements even allow clinical training at place of employment! [See our list of top ten academic training programs.](#)

Q&A Session with Dr. Blount

Dr. Alexander Blount, Ed.D. is a pioneer in the Integrated Primary Care, contributing to efforts to implement behavioral health integration in primary care in multiples states. Recently, Dr. Blount has been applying his expertise to the state of New Hampshire by leading the New Hampshire Behavioral Health Integration Workforce Initiative, sponsored by the Endowment for Health of New Hampshire. This initiative is a resource to help increase behavioral health services in primary care throughout the state. As part of this project, Dr. Blount will make himself available to health and behavioral health professional working in New Hampshire for an hour each month to answer any questions about the integration of behavioral health and primary care, such as issues in implementation, clinical care, team based care, communication, models for integration, populations in primary care, or any other question. He has an answer for most questions about integration, and when he doesn't have an answer to offer, he usually has some ideas about how an answer can be found. These Q&A sessions will serve as source of information for building the ability for primary care and mental health settings in New Hampshire to move more quickly and efficiently toward integration. [Sign up now!](#)

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