



April 2014

Dear Friends,

Bi-State's 28th Annual Primary Care Conference is just around the corner on Tuesday, May 13. This year's program addresses time-sensitive and critical issues facing primary care providers and practices. The conference speakers are experts at the policy and practice level and will be taking questions in every session. Each workshop is designed to provide the tools and resources necessary to understand payment reform, accountable care organizations, successful integration of oral health services, the important role of boards of directors, and working with community partners and public health agencies to improve population health. Bi-State has applied for 3.5 credit hours for CME/CEU and nursing credits for the conference.

We look forward to presenting Bi-State's 2014 Awards to nominated individuals who have made outstanding contributions to our mission of improving access to primary care for New Hampshire and Vermont residents. The list of award recipients we will recognize at the Awards Ceremony Luncheon, and additional conference information, appears on Bi-State's [Primary Care Conference website](#).

I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

[Tess Stack Kuenning, CNS, MS, RN](#)  
President and Chief Executive Officer

PLEASE JOIN US • TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2014

2014 Primary Care Conference - Improving Health Outcomes in the Medical Home



LAKE MOREY RESORT, FAIRLEE, VERMONT

May 13, 2014 -

PRIMARY CARE CONFERENCE

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## PROGRAM

## Improving Health Outcomes in the Medical Home



Dr. Paul Jarris

**Keynote Speaker:** Paul E. Jarris, MD, MBA, Executive Director, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), and former State Health Official for Vermont Department of Health.

ASTHO's National Prevention Strategy Implementation Toolkit gives primary care practitioners the tools they need to be leaders in addressing population health issues. With health care reform initiatives in play at both the state and federal levels, primary care providers and public health officers have an unprecedented opportunity to be partners in community health and champions for taking action now. Dr. Jarris will introduce participants to the NPS Toolkit. There will be time for questions and discussion on how primary care providers can leverage the toolkit and their insights into their unique communities to respond to the expectations of a health care reform environment.

## The Medical Home Model and Payment Reform

**Moderator:** Lori H. Real, MHA - Chief Operating Officer, Bi-State Primary Care Association

**Panel:** Craig Jones, MD - Director of Health Reform Implementation, Vermont Department of Health; and William Gunn, PhD - Director of Primary Care Behavioral Health, New Hampshire Dartmouth Family Practice Residency Program

Policymakers are considering a number of models to reform the payment system, including accountable care organizations, patient-centered medical homes, comprehensive care payment, and episode-based payment. Community Health Center administrators, providers, and board members all play a role in this complex evolution that impacts all aspects of their operations. Access to the local experts, training, and support are necessary to participate as a full partner in this historic transformation of the health care system.

## **AWARDS CEREMONY LUNCHEON**

### **Professional Development Workshops**

#### **I. Accountable Care Organizations and Payment Reform**

**Moderator:** Sharon M. Winn, Esq., MPH - Director of Vermont Public Policy, Bi-State Primary Care Association

**Faculty:** Sharon Beaty, MBA, CEO - Mid-State Health Center, and President of the Board - North Country Health Consortium, New Hampshire; Robert Wheeler, MD, CMO - Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont; and Kara Suter, MS, Director of Payment Reform - Department of Vermont Health Access

Health care reform has set in motion a demand for innovation to produce a health care system that rewards patients and providers for measurable improvements in the patient's health and provides greater value for every dollar invested in health care. Medicaid, Medicare, and commercial insurers are transforming the fee for service model to a pay for performance model. Greater cooperation and integration is required of patients, providers, specialists, social services and governing agencies to achieve the goals of health care reform. This session discusses key components of emerging systems, successful applications, and how to prepare and motivate others for the future of health care.

#### **II. Meeting New Challenges in Health Center Board Governance**

**Faculty:** Tess Stack Kuenning, CNS, MS, RN - President and CEO - Bi-State Primary Care Association; and, David Reynolds, DrPH, Health Policy Analyst and Founder of Vermont's First Federally Qualified Health Center

Community boards of directors need to be well-informed in order to oversee and make key decisions as state and national health care reform efforts continue to unfold at a dizzying pace. As state and federal governments shape new service delivery and payment systems, it is imperative that boards have knowledge of these emerging changes. By doing so, boards will be prepared to offer advice and support to maximize their organizations' place in the market and continue to meet the health care needs of their communities.

#### **III. Maximizing the Impact of Your Dental Program**

**Faculty:** Dori Bingham, Program Manager - Safety Net Solutions, DentaQuest Institute

The purpose of this session is to enable the learner to determine actual capacity of the safety net dental program and manage to that capacity so that patient access and clinical outcomes are achieved. This session will provide concrete, specific, and actionable strategies to help dental program leadership determine actual capacity of the dental center and manage to that capacity while at the same time meeting organizational revenue goals.

**REGISTER HERE:** [2014 Primary Care Conference Website](#)



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**Just Enter Your Town or Address!**

[www.findahealthcenter.org](http://www.findahealthcenter.org)

[Bi-State Primary Care Association](#) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization formed in 1986 to promote access to effective and affordable primary care and preventive services for all, with special emphasis on underserved populations in VT and NH. Bi-State works with federal, state, and regional health policy organizations and policymakers, foundations, and payers to develop strategies, policies, and programs that promote and sustain community-based, primary health care services.

With offices in Bow, NH, and Montpelier, VT, Bi-State provides strategic advocacy, technical assistance, education and training, networking opportunities, and resource and information services.

**Contact the Editor:** [Susan Noon, MBA, APR - Director of Marketing and Development](#)

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