525 Clinton Street
Bow, NH 03304
Voice: 603-228-2830
Fax: 603-228-2464

BI-STATE PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

SERVING VERMONT & NEW HAMPSHIRE

www.bistatepca.org

61 Elm Street
Montpelier, VT 05602
Voice: 802-229-0002
Fax: 802-223-2336

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Susan Noon, MBA, APR
(603) 228-2830 x 144
snoon@bistatepca.org

2014 PRIMARY CARE CONFERENCE: IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES IN THE MEDICAL HOME

VERMONT and NEW HAMPSHIRE – (April 2, 2014) – Online "early bird" registration is open through April 18 for Bi-State Primary Care Association's 2014 Primary Care Conference, Tuesday May 13, 2014, at Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee, Vermont. Preview the conference agenda, speakers, and professional development workshops at www.bistatepca.org.

Paul Jarris, MD, MBA, executive director of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, will deliver the keynote address. ASTHO represents public health agencies in the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia, and over 100,000 public health professionals these agencies employ. Dr. José Montero, Director, Division of Public Health Services, NH Department of Health and Human Services; and Regional Representative Dr. Harry Chen, Commissioner of Health, VT Department of Public Health, both sit on the ASTHO board of directors. "As a practicing physician, national agency director, and former state health agency official, Dr. Jarris brings a broad perspective on clinical practice principals and population health; we're looking forward to his keynote address," said Bi-State's president and CEO, Tess Stack Kuenning, CNS, MS, RN. Dr. Jarris is the former State Health Official of the VT Department of Health (2003-2006). During his tenure, the VT Blueprint for Health was implemented and new treatment options were developed for vulnerable Vermonters dealing with addiction. Throughout his career, Dr. Jarris has maintained an active clinical family practice, including work in Federally Qualified Health Centers and a shelter for homeless adolescent youth.

Experienced experts in policy and practice will discuss current and critical topics facing primary care practitioners, administrators, and Community Health Center boards of directors. Professional development workshops include: 1) The Medical Home Model and Payment Reform, 2) Meeting New Challenges in Health Center Board Governance, 3) Accountable Care Organizations and Payment Reform, and 4) Integrating Oral Health in the Primary Care Setting. Bi-State is applying for continuing education credits for the conference.

Bi-State Primary Care Association is a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization that promotes access to effective and affordable primary care and preventive services for all, with special emphasis on underserved populations in Vermont and New Hampshire.

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