

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



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

www.bistatepca.org

Integrating Mental Health in the Primary Care Setting

Two hundred health professionals gather on topic of mental health and substance use disorder.



Hon. John T. Broderick, Jr., tells a story about the impact of untreated mental illness to a silent crowd.

FAIRLEE, VERMONT – May 10, 2017 – Bi-State Primary Care Association’s Primary Care Conference sold out yesterday with more than 225 physicians, social workers, substance use treatment providers, Community Health Center leadership, researchers and educators there to share their expertise and learn more about best practices for integrating mental health services in the primary care setting.

The room was silent as the Keynote Speaker, Hon. John T. Broderick, Jr., recounted the life-altering consequences of not recognizing the signs of depression and mental illness.¹ The former Chief Justice of the NH Supreme Court is co-chair of the Campaign to Change Direction NH, the first statewide effort in a national initiative to change the culture of mental health in America.

Capt. Chris Bersani, PsyD, ABPP, Health Resources and Services Administration, introduced Dr. Benjamin Miller, PsyD, University of Colorado School of Medicine, and his presentation on “Addressing the Range of Mental Health and Substance Use Needs in Our Community, An Integrated Approach”.

Bi-State Awards for outstanding dedication to advancing access to primary health care in New Hampshire and Vermont were presented and the graduating class of Bi-State’s Leadership Development Program were recognized.

Capt. Bersani presented the HRSA overview of Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment and facilitated two panels with local experts on best practices and model programs in integrated substance use disorder care and integrating SUD care into primary care. Practitioners from New Hampshire and Vermont served as panelists: John Fothergill, PhD, MD; Sanchit Maruti, MD; Naya Pyskacek, LICSW, LADC, LIC; Claire Reed, MD; and Win Turner, PhD, LADC.

A Medicare Cost Reporting and Medicare PPS Methodology workshop was conducted by Steven Schwartz, CPA and Dolores De Ri from CohnReznick and Community Health Center Board Governance and introduction to the Bureau of Primary Care’s 2016 Compliance Manual were presented by Tess Stack Kuenning, CNS, MS, RN, and Kate Simmons, MBA, MPH, of Bi-State Primary Care Association.

The 2017 Primary Care Conference Program is available online: www.bistatepca.org.

¹ <http://www.unionleader.com/Former-chief-justice-hopes-his-familys-fight-with-mental-illness-will-help-others>