



ValueAdded

This is the 149th issue of our VBH-PA information update. These updates will be emailed to all network providers monthly. Please feel free to share our newsletter with others, and be sure your appropriate clinical and financial staffs receive copies.

Volume 13, Issue 9

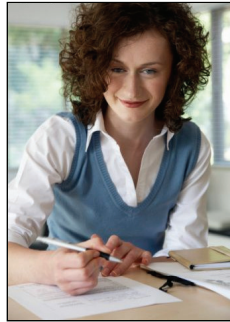
September 2011

An information update from Value Behavioral Health of PA, Inc.

In this Issue:

- 1 Treatment Goals and BHRS Hours
- 2 Reminder for BHRS Providers
- 2 PFC Spotlight
- 2 Staff Update
- 3 WPIC Videoconference Series
- 4 Heroes of Recovery
- 4 Visit www.vbh-pa.com
- 5 Register for the 5th Annual Family Forum
- 6 Save the Date for the 4th Annual NW3 Consumer & Family Forum

Treatment Goals and BHRS Hours



Value Behavioral Health of PA (VBH-PA) is aware that there are families who are not receiving their full prescriptions of BHRS hours. In order for these children to make gains and reach their treatment goals, it is imperative that the hours prescribed by the psychologist/psychiatrist are adhered to and delivered. It is unacceptable for HealthChoices members to be waiting for services to start.

Therefore, please be sure to follow the policies and procedures below:

- a) Begin services within the seven (7) calendar day access standard
- b) Inform VBH-PA if you cannot accept referrals
- c) **Do not accept a referral if you do not have the staff to immediately fill the full prescription hours**
 - encourage families to choose another provider that can fill the hours
 - refer the family back to VBH-PA for referral to another provider
- d) Set up a schedule, in writing, with the family to ensure all are aware of when services will be delivered

VBH-PA will be closely monitoring any HealthChoices members that are currently waiting for services to start.

Sign Up Online to Receive *ValueAdded*

Don't miss out on getting this provider newsletter delivered to you monthly. Upcoming provider forums and articles of general importance to the provider network are published in *ValueAdded*. Please click on the link below to be added to the *ValueAdded* email distribution list or visit our website at www.vbh-pa.com.

http://www.vbh-pa.com/provider/prv_information.htm#newsletters

Reminder for BHRS Providers...

Please remember to document all hours of service not delivered, and a brief explanation as to why the hours were not delivered, in the member's medical record.

And Keep in Mind...

Mobile Therapist (MT) is a service that requires a clinician with a graduate *mental health* degree (*Medical Assistance Bulletin #01-01-05 Issue Date June 1, 2001*).

Provider Field Coordinator Spotlight



Krissie Hicks has been with VBH-PA since June of 2011. She is a Provider Field Coordinator for Cambria County.

Krissie has a Bachelor's degree in Nursing. Prior to working at VBH-PA, she was a Blended Case Manager for Community Guidance Center located in Indiana County. Krissie has enjoyed working in the behavioral health field for the past 15 years.



Krissie resides in Windber where she was born and raised. She is the proud mother of two-year-old Anastasia, who is always laughing and smiling. Krissie enjoys spending time with her daughter, family, outings with friends, watching movies, swimming, traveling and civil war reenacting. Does she reenact as a Union soldier, a Confederate soldier or a lady? Ask Krissie about it, she would love to share the answer with you.

VBH-PA Staff Update



Pennsylvania.

Jennifer Blough started on August 15, 2011 as a **Prevention Education & Outreach Coordinator** for **Cambria County**. Jennifer comes to VBH-PA from OTI Oracle in Rockville, Maryland, where she was a Medical Transcriptionist. She also worked as a Medical Transcriptionist at Conemaugh Hospital in Johnstown,

Shelly Holsopple also started on August 15, 2011 as an **Administrative Assistant** in the Quality Department and mailroom. Shelly most recently worked at Litigation Solutions, LLC MCMC in Pittsburgh where she was an administrative supervisor.

Welcome, Jennifer and Shelly!

Fall 2011 WPIC VideoConference Series

VBH-PA is pleased to announce that our service center will once again be a videoconferencing site for the WPIC Office of Education and Regional Programming videoconference series. These programs are **free of charge** and there are **NO** fees for continuing education credits.

The videoconferences are held from **9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** in the **Walnut Room** at VBH-PA's Trafford Service Center. You are welcome to attend!

Upcoming Fall 2011 Videoconferences:

September 14

Reactive Attachment Disorder

October 12

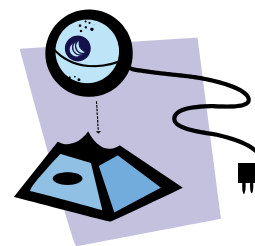
Gay, Lesbian and Transgender Adolescents – Engagement in Treatment

November 9

Twitter While You Work: The Legal Impact of Social Media, Networking and Cloud Computing in the Workplace

December 14

High Suicidal Risk Assessment and Management Across the Lifespan



For CEU information and complete descriptions of these trainings, please click on this link:

http://www.vbh-pa.com/provider/training/Video_Conference_Fall_2011.pdf

Registration:

To register for one or all of these trainings, please visit the ValueOptions Provider Trainings Web page at: <https://www.valueoptions.com/forumRegistration>. Select **Pennsylvania** from the state dropdown list, (DO NOT change any of the other fields) and then click on **Select**. Scroll down the screen and put a check mark in the box next to the event(s) and then hit **Register**. Phone-in registrations WILL NOT be accepted.

Other Sites:

VBH-PA is one of many sites offering this opportunity. Please [click here](#) to view all locations offering this videoconference series. To register with another location, please contact the coordinator for that site.

WPIC Information:

Information on upcoming WPIC/OERP programs is available on the OERP website at <http://www.wpic.pitt.edu/oerp>.

If you are interested in having your agency become a site for the series or for more information, please contact Joanne Slappo, PhD, Program Coordinator, at 412-802-6918 or slappojm@upmc.edu.

Heroes of Recovery

Abraham Low (1891-1954) was a Jewish-American neuropsychiatrist noted for his work in establishing self-help programs for individuals diagnosed with a mental illness, as well as for his criticisms of Freudian psychoanalysis. He was born in Poland.



Dr. Low attended grade school and high school in France from 1898 through 1910, continuing onto a French medical school from 1910 to 1913, and then completing his medical education in Austria from 1913 to 1919 while serving in the Medical Corps of the Austrian Army. After serving an internship in Vienna, Austria from 1919 to 1920, he immigrated to the United States, obtaining his US citizenship in 1927. From 1921 to 1925 he practiced medicine in both New York and Chicago. In 1925, Dr. Low was appointed as an instructor of neurology at the University of Illinois Medical School and became an associate professor of psychiatry. In 1931, he was appointed Assistant Director, and became the Acting Director of the University's Neuropsychiatric Institute in 1940.

From 1931 to 1941 he supervised the Illinois State Hospitals. During this time, he conducted demanding seminars with the staff and interviewed the patients diagnosed with the most severe mental illness. He came to believe that these individuals, as well as those with less severe symptoms, could take an active role in maintaining their mental health through control of their responses to recurrent symptoms.

In 1937, Dr. Low founded Recovery, Inc. to provide mental health aftercare for psychiatric patients. During his time as its medical director, he presented lectures to family members of individuals with mental health diagnoses. In 1941, Recovery Inc. became an independent organization. Two years later, it published Dr. Low's three volumes of *The Technique of Self-help in Psychiatric Aftercare*. Following his death in 1954, Recovery, Inc. transitioned completely to a peer-run self-help group, and in 2009, the name changed to Recovery International/The Abraham Low Institute.

Have you visited our website lately?



Visit www.vbh-pa.com to get the latest provider news, information on upcoming events and reference materials. Provider info such as fraud and abuse rules and regulations, open networks, requests for proposals, specific county information, departmental forms, directories, archived trainings/webinars and much more can be found on the VBH-PA website. Stay up-to-date and check www.vbh-pa.com often.

Register Now!



For Value Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania's
5th Annual Family Forum

Friday, October 7, 2011

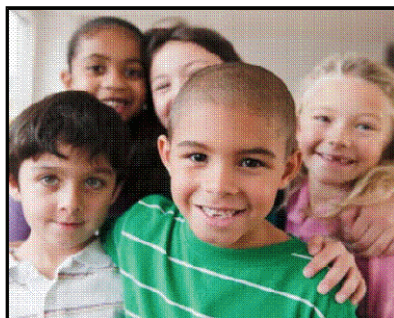
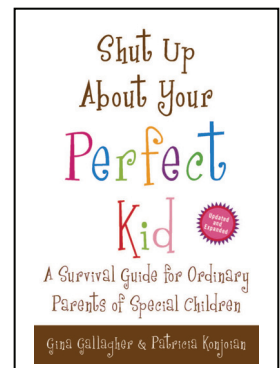
9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Registration starts at 8:00 a.m.

Westmoreland County Community College
Science Hall • 145 Pavilion Lane • Youngwood, PA 15697

Practical Possibilities for Impossible Problems: A Forum for Families with Children in HealthChoices

You're not going to want to miss the "Value"able information at this 5th Annual Family Forum, featuring an inspirational keynote address by sisters Gina Gallagher and Patricia Konjoian, authors of Shut Up About Your Perfect Kid: A Survival Guide for Ordinary Parents of Special Children, many vendors, informative afternoon workshops and the Exceptional Parent/Caregiver Awards Ceremony. There is no cost to attend the forum.



**Click on the link below for more information
and to register:**

[http://www.vbh-
pa.com/news_events/Family_Forum.pdf](http://www.vbh-pa.com/news_events/Family_Forum.pdf)

Save the Date!

Click on the link below to be added to the *ValueAdded* email distribution list:
http://www.vbh-pa.com/provider/prv_information.htm#newsletters

Suggestions or ideas for articles that you would like to see published in *ValueAdded* can be faxed to Kim Tzoulis, *ValueAdded* Editor, at (724) 744-6363 or emailed to Kimberly.Tzoulis@ValueOptions.com

Articles of general importance to the provider network will be considered for publication.

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(724) 744-6363

Value Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania is pleased to present the



4th Annual HealthChoices NW3 (Crawford/Mercer and Venango Counties) Behavioral Health Forum:

"Acknowledging the Journey"

This forum is for adults and family members of children and adolescents in the HealthChoices' program (members of VBH-PA) with behavioral health needs who reside in Crawford, Mercer or Venango Counties.

Thursday, November 10, 2011

9:00 am to 4:15 pm

Registration begins at 8:00 am

Radisson Hotel

3377 New Castle Road • West Middlesex, PA 16159

Featuring the Exceptional Parent and Individual Awards* Luncheon

The forum is free for all attendees. Providers are encouraged to bring a member along with them.

Speakers and topics to be announced at a later date. Registration Information for attendees and exhibitors coming soon. Stay tuned!

For more information, please call Shelley Thomas, PE&O Coordinator, at (724) 962-8032 or (866) 404-4561.



**Please start thinking about people whom you would like to nominate for the Exceptional Individual and Parent Awards.*