

March 21, 2018



COMMUNITY CARE
OF
BROOKLYN

NEWSLETTER

Happy blustery, snowy day, colleagues,

In this newsletter, you will find:

- [An invite to an exciting CCB event on how private practices can succeed in value-based payment \(plus, free food and CME credit!\)](#)
- [Some very important deadlines you should add to your calendar A.S.A.P.](#)
- [Information on a training CCB provided on an intensive care management model](#)
- [A "Whiteboard" Video on DSRIP year 4, brought to you by host Jason Helgerson](#)
- [An exclusive interview with Melina Somoza, Esq. Columbia Law School J.D., the attorney to whom you may be able to refer patients for free legal assistance](#)
- [Upcoming trainings, including a NEW course on Advanced Care Management](#)

We invite you to join us for:



PRIVATE PRACTICE AND VALUE-BASED PAYMENT

April 11, 2018 5:30-7:30 PM

Dyker Beach Golf Course, 1030 86th St., Brooklyn, NY 11228

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Topics will include:

- How to succeed in value-based payment (VBP) arrangements
- VBP opportunities through CCB IPA
- Changes to PCMH incentive payments, Advanced Primary Care and VBP requirements
- Networking with other private practices in the CCB network

Physicians, NPs, PAs, and Office Managers are welcomed, and will receive **1 hour of free CME** by attending. Dinner with kosher options will be provided and free parking will be available.

For additional information, please email support@ccbbrooklyn.org or call 718-355-9693.

We hope to see you there!

Upcoming Deadlines

New friends, MIPS reporting, grant money, and add-on surveys—oh my!

CCB Network Opening (3/15-3/30)

MARCH
15-30 For approximately two weeks, PPSs are allowed to add providers to their networks. CCB's Network Support team is following up on expressions of interest to collect the information needed. Please contact support@ccbbrooklyn.org if you have suggestions about providers who might be interested in joining CCB.

Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program II (Phase 2) Grant Opportunity (3/23)

MARCH
23 **(4:00 PM) (extension):** New deadline to apply for the NYS DOH's Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program II grant, which is offering over \$203 million to health care providers that support capital projects, debt retirement, working capital or other non-capital projects. The RFA can be accessed through the NYS DOH website [here](#). For more information, please visit the [NYS Grants Gateway site](#) and search for "Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program II (Phase 2)" under the "Grant Opportunity" field.

MIPS Data (3/31)

MARCH
31 Deadline for practices and organizations to submit data for the 2017 MIPS performance period and avoid a negative Medicare payment adjustment in 2019 (via the [CMS QPP Submissions Portal](#); see informational [video](#) and [fact sheet](#)).

PCMH Add-On Surveys (4/16)

APRIL
16 Deadline for PCMH 2014 Level 2-recognized primary care practices to submit an add-on survey to receive Level 3 recognition (using the code "DP-Addon"). Reminder: Medicaid Managed Care and Fee-for-Service PCMH incentive payments for Level 2 practices will be permanently eliminated starting May 1!

Critical Time Intervention Training with the Center for Urban Community Services

CCB and CUCS spent two days with health home care managers providing training on an intensive care management model.

On March 6th and 7th, CCB partnered with the Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS) to provide a 2-day Critical Time Intervention (CTI) training for health home care managers. CTI is an evidence-based, patient-centered, intensive care management model that helps transition vulnerable patients—including those with serious mental illness and formerly incarcerated individuals—back into the community, focusing on helping patients build community-based support systems, develop coping skills, and strengthen their abilities to advocate for themselves over a nine-month period. The training provided care managers with skills and strategies for building trust and engaging patients through techniques such as active listening and asking open-ended questions. The training will allow care managers to identify patients who would most benefit from CTI.

CCB currently supports one CTI team and plans to expand the model throughout the network in the coming months. Stay tuned!

Jason Helgerson Shares Final DSRIP Video

Helgerson, the exiting NYS Medicaid Director, shared the last of his famed DSRIP Whiteboard videos.

In the last video of his tenure as NYS Medicaid Director, Jason Helgerson speaks on the DSRIP year 4 theme and goals, including the focus on performance, the move to value-based payment, and planning for the future. Check it out [here](#), and be sure to tweet @NewYorkMRT using the hashtag #StartAMovementNY if you want to continue the conversation and maybe even engage @policywonk1 himself...

A Conversation with the CCB NYLAG LegalHealth Clinic Attorney

How can my patients benefit from legal assistance? How can I identify patients who might benefit from these services? How can I become eligible to refer these patients? Melina Somoza, Esq. answers your questions here.

Following [a study on the impact of social services on healthcare utilization and costs](#), CCB partnered with the New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) to expand an existing legal clinic model to provide low-income patients in Brooklyn with legal assistance. Melina Somoza, Esq. has since been helping patients referred by CCB network providers navigate an intimidating legal system, empowering them to address social or economic factors affecting their daily lives, and enabling them to focus on their health.

We thought we would “introduce” providers to Ms. Somoza and provide clarity on the services she provides through an interview in this week’s newsletter.

(Providers who have already completed one of the CCB-NYLAG-1199SEIU TEF training programs on Social Determinants of Health and the Law may find more detailed information on how to refer patients for legal assistance [here](#). Please note if you have referred in the past, *we have a new phone number for making appointments!*)



INTERVIEW

WITH MELINA SOMOZA, ESQ.
COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL J.D.

ATTORNEY AT CCB NYLAG
LEGALHEALTH CLINIC



CCB: Can you provide a brief background on LegalHealth and the impact of its services on health?

Ms. Somoza: LegalHealth, a division of the New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG), provides free civil legal assistance to patients and trains healthcare professionals to understand the legal issues their patients face. We believe that our services set off a chain reaction resulting in better health and decreases in unnecessary hospital readmissions and healthcare spending.

CCB: What made you personally want to get involved with NYLAG?

Ms. Somoza: Coming from a family of immigrants, I entered the legal profession with the intent of using immigration law to empower families and ensure they have the best opportunities for success in this country. In the past, I have specialized in humanitarian-based immigration remedies, represented immigrant children in both immigration and family court, and educated communities through campaigns with the New York Civil Liberties Union.

Although I greatly enjoyed providing immigration services, I was often dismayed upon learning about the other complications my clients were facing in their lives such as substandard housing conditions, lack of resources, and a need for guidance through complex systems that they did not understand. I was quickly drawn to NYLAG, and specifically LegalHealth, because of our intersectional approach to a patient's legal questions that analyzes both the immediate need and how to help each individual improve their overall health and set them up for success. By working in partnership with health providers, we become part of a multidimensional team making sure each individual has both dignity and fair opportunities, no matter their health conditions, immigration status, or socioeconomic standing. I am able to not only be a guide through an intimidating legal system but also provide tools to stabilize and empower patients and their families.

*"...making sure each individual has both **dignity and fair opportunities**, no matter their health conditions, immigration status, or socioeconomic standing."*

CCB: What services does the CCB NYLAG LegalHealth clinic provide for its clients? Who is eligible to become a client?

Ms. Somoza: The clinic provides civil legal services to low-income individuals who cannot afford an attorney. Among the services offered are: eligibility determination and appeals for government benefits; assistance with insurance eligibility and coverage disputes, including Medicaid, Medicare, or other commercial plans; remedies for housing conditions and potential evictions; family law; immigration remedies; debtor and creditor issues; workplace accommodations; and advanced planning through preparations of wills, assigning a health care proxy, power of attorney, and permanency planning.

To become a client, an individual must be a patient at a CCB network practice and be referred by a provider who has completed a LegalHealth training program on Social Determinants of Health and the Law.

CCB: Can you share a success story from your time working at the CCB NYLAG LegalHealth clinic?

Ms. Somoza: When I met Ms. Smith (*name changed to protect patient identity*) in December 2017, her health issues—an overactive thyroid with numerous debilitating and unexpected symptoms and a back injury resulting in a recent leave from her job—were interfering with her ability to work. Despite her best efforts, Ms. Smith fell behind in her rent and her landlord took her to housing court. Faced with a potential eviction from the Brooklyn apartment where she had resided for almost 10 years, Ms. Smith tried her best to represent herself in housing court. She could consistently pay her monthly rent going forward, but she did not have the funds to pay off the back rent of almost \$7,000.

I stepped in to help Ms. Smith identify and communicate with various charity organizations that could help pay for the arrears. I coordinated with the charities and ensured that they had the necessary documents to process her request. When additional time was needed, I helped her negotiate with the housing court judge and landlord's attorney to provide an extension. As a result, Ms. Smith was able to remain in her home. Shortly thereafter, Ms. Smith attended her citizenship interview and was sworn in as a U.S. citizen and has already registered to vote. Not only is Ms. Smith now able to focus on her health, she is now enthusiastically looking forward in life, focusing on new goals, and wants to go back to school.

CCB: Can you discuss the Social Determinants of Health and the Law trainings that NYLAG facilitates with CCB and 1199SEIU TEF?

Ms. Somoza: The training is built on the expertise that LegalHealth has developed from training healthcare professionals for the last 17 years, and addresses topics such as achieving housing stability, income maximization and stability, behavioral health, immigration, and safe living environments.

Good health requires more than good health care. Much of a person's health is dependent upon social factors, some of which may be addressed with legal assistance. Our aim with this training is to empower the healthcare workforce to identify health-harming legal issues and advocate for their patients to prevent crises, making a referral for legal services when necessary. It also teaches healthcare professionals about their unique role in advocacy and provides tools they can use to better assist their patients.

"Good health requires more than good health care."

Providers can attend any of the following Social Determinants of Health & the Law training courses to become eligible to refer patients for Ms. Somoza's legal assistance:

[Social Determinants & the Law- BH, Safe Living, Immigrants' Rights](#) April 19, 9am-5pm
[Social Determinants & the Law- BH, Safe Living, Immigrants' Rights](#) May 17, 9am-5pm

[Social Determinants & the Law- Housing, Income, & Insurance](#) April 26, 9am-5pm

UPCOMING INSTRUCTOR-LED TRAININGS

(Unless otherwise noted, these trainings are held at the 1199SEIU Employment Center, 25 Elm Place, Brooklyn. Click the links below to enroll.)

NEW Training Spotlight: Advanced Care Management

Description: This training program is specifically designed for care managers, health coaches, and transitional care nurses offering person-centered, culturally responsive, community-based care coordination. Case studies and role plays provide opportunities for participants to experience highly interactive engagement. Cultural competency is integrated throughout. At the end of the training participants will be able to:

- Define a care plan and show how it supports the care management model as a therapeutic tool to be used with patients
- Demonstrate de-escalation techniques
- Describe and demonstrate the four skills of Motivational Interviewing: open-ended questions, affirmations, (empathic) reflections, and summaries
- List key features of improving self-management
- Learn documentation practices with time management

Location: 1199SEIU Employment Center, 25 Elm Place, Brooklyn

Frequency: 1 day/week for 10 weeks (80 hours), available Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays

Enroll today!

Tuesdays (April 10-June 12, 9AM-5PM)

Wednesdays (April 4-June 6, 9AM-5PM)

Thursdays (April 12-June 14, 9AM-5PM)

Also check out:

- **Mental Health First Aid** March 28, 9am-5pm
- **Social Determinants & the Law- BH, Safe Living, Immigrants' Rights** April 19, 9am-5pm
- **Social Determinants & the Law- Housing, Income, & Insurance** April 26, 9am-5pm
- **Advanced Motivational Interviewing** April 26 9am-5pm
- **Social Determinants & the Law- BH, Safe Living, Immigrants' Rights** May 17, 9am-5pm
- **Social Determinants & the Law- Housing, Income, & Insurance** May 31, 9am-5pm

ONLINE TRAININGS VIA CCB'S RESOURCE PORTAL

(Available anywhere, anytime! Completion of courses and post-tests may qualify users for CME or CEU credits)

To access these courses, existing users can log in to the [CCB Resource Portal](#) and view our complete catalog of online courses as well as register for upcoming instructor-led courses. New users can easily self-register to access these features (click below to watch a brief video explaining the registration process). Please contact our Support Team at support@CCBrooklyn.org if you have any questions or have any difficulty accessing these trainings the Resource Portal.



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