Dear colleagues,

In this newsletter, you will find:

- CCB’s public comment on the proposed DSRIP waiver extension
- A notification about upcoming medical record review
- Promising data about CCB’s efforts in a citywide homelessness prevention program (and how to access training to take part)
- CCB’s lead entity, Maimonides Medical Center, awarded competitive national grant to help sustain and integrate DSRIP-funded care coordination resources with other community programs managed by the hospital
- New resources available to support patients looking to quit e-cigarettes
- A grant opportunity to support community-based non-profits providing services to minorities at-risk for HIV and substance use disorder
- 2020 Patient Safety Goals from the Joint Commission
- A notice regarding waivers allowing hospitals to provide detox services beyond their current OASAS certifications
- A plethora of online trainings you can take when it’s convenient for you

**CCB Submits Written Public Comment on Proposed DSRIP Waiver Extension**

Comments supported the extension to help bring our current initiatives to maturity and encouraged program organizers to learn from experiences in order to refine and further promising practices.

On November 4, CCB submitted public comments in response to the New York State Department of Health’s (NYS DOH) request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a four year waiver amendment to further support quality improvements and cost savings through the DSRIP program.

CCB’s comments commended the progress made in Brooklyn thanks to DSRIP funding and the collaboration and dedication of our partners and complimented the state’s selection of new priority areas. Recommendations were made to further improve the request, such as rethinking the methodology for evaluating performance improvement on population health outcomes.

Please see the complete comment [here](#). Recordings of upstate and downstate public comment days, as well as all written comments, will be made available soon on the NYS DOH page [here](#).

For more information, or with any questions in regards to CCB’s comments, please do not hesitate to contact CCB Support.

**Medical Record Review to Begin this Month**

A random sample of CCB providers will be asked to participate in medical record review this month.

Not all DSRIP quality measures can be assessed through Medicaid claims. Two of CCB’s measures, “Controlling high blood pressure” and “Screening for clinical depression,” require a deeper look into patient charts. To do this, the New York State Department of Health has contracted with MedReview, a medical record abstraction firm, to collect records from July 2018-June 2019 (DSRIP Measurement Year 5) for a random sample of patients. MedReview will be initiating this process in the next month.

MedReview will be working together with CCB to contact providers in our network that have seen the selected patients and facilitate data collection. Not all of CCB’s Participants will be asked to participate in the medical record review process.
CCB requests that our Participants be as cooperative with these requests as possible. Results from this medical record review process have NO direct bearing on your payments from the state, managed care organizations or directly from CCB. If you are randomly selected to participate and choose to decline, you will not be penalized.

Please do not hesitate to contact CCB with any questions related to this process at support@CCBrooklyn.org.

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**HOMEBASE**

Homeless Prevention Network

**CCB Providers Having Success with Homebase Referrals and Enrollments**

It’s not too late to get in on the action and help protect fellow New Yorkers from housing insecurity and homelessness.

As winter approaches, it is extremely important that all Brooklyn residents have a warm place to sleep. Homebase is a citywide homelessness prevention program providing services to at-risk households at various stages of housing crisis.

CCB partners have been referring patients and clients to Homebase since November 2018. We are proud to announce that CCB has been responsible for 50% of total referrals made citywide, and our number of referrals and enrollments have doubled since April 2019.

We encourage our Homebase-trained providers to continue these great efforts to protect our fellow New Yorkers from housing crises.

*If you think that your patients or clients could benefit from these services but are new to the program, please view the brief Homebase e-training, “CCB Homebase Training: Homeless Prevention Program,” in the CCB Resource Portal, for information on eligibility criteria and how to make referrals.*

**What services does Homebase provide?** Homebase can provide short-term financial assistance, rental assistance, relocation resources assistance, advocacy for benefits and entitlements, landlord/tenant mediation, linkages to community resources, and more.

**Who is eligible for Homebase?**

- Homebase serves both single adults and families.
- Households must be determined to be at imminent risk of homelessness.
- Homebase only provides services to prevent homelessness. If a household is already homeless (i.e., does not have any place to stay), alternative referrals are necessary.

**What are the levels of Homebase services?**

- **Housing Advice and Assistance**: Guidance and referrals to other social service programs (for clients who do not meet full eligibility criteria)
- **Full Service**: Various services based on specific needs (for fully eligible clients)
- **Intensive**: Intensive support including connections to CBOs and other social service providers (for clients who demonstrate significant need for ongoing services)
Maimonides to Further Integrate DSRIP, Health Home, and Other Population Health Resources with Competitive National Grant

In an effort to work towards truly patient-centered care, Maimonides will use grant funds to integrate care coordination-based population health programs often restricted by patients’ insurance type or other specific eligibility criteria.

Maimonides Medical Center is one of eight organizations—the only one in New York—selected to participate in the Advancing Integrated Models project to improve care for adults and children with complex health and social needs. The effort is being supported by about $4 million from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and led by the Center for Health Care Strategies. Participating organizations will receive about $150,000 each to develop and pilot integrated care approaches aimed at improving outcomes and health equity.

The project will deepen Maimonides’ commitment to population health by ensuring that a broader range of individuals can benefit from promising practices, irrespective of specific insurance-based program requirements.

“Maimonides has implemented several approaches to care management for discrete populations,” said Sara Kaplan-Levenson, V.P. for Complex Care and Population Health at Maimonides, “but eligibility requirements for these programs and lack of other reimbursement mechanisms restrict patients from accessing much-needed services. It was this realization, in part, that spurred us to develop a model that could be truly patient-centered and transcend the constraints of existing approaches.”

Click here for the full press release, or here for a feature in Crain’s Health Pulse.

NYSDOH Announces New Services to Help E-Cigarette Users Quit

Smoking cessation services are no longer limited to traditional cigarette users. There are several ways you can help patients or clients looking to quit vaping.

In response to a nationwide outbreak of vaping-associated illnesses, the New York State Department of Health is supporting:

- New services to help e-cigarette user stop vaping, including free quit coaching and nicotine replacement therapy through the New York State Smokers’ Quitline
- A Request for Applications to award $16 million over five years to support health care systems in their efforts to help smokers and vapers quit through proven cessation methods
- A new statewide TV ad campaign to educate teens and their parents about the dangers of vaping

For additional details, please see the NYSDOH press release here.

For more information on or to access the new Quitline services, please call 1-866-NY-QUITS.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: Minority Substance Abuse and HIV Prevention

Community-based domestic public and private not-for-profit entities, including faith-based, and/or health care delivery organizations are invited to apply for funding to support young adults at-risk for HIV or substance use disorder.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Prevention released a funding opportunity announcement for the fiscal year 2020 Substance Abuse and HIV Prevention Navigator Program for Racial/Ethnic Minorities Ages 13-24. This program uses Community Health Workers, Neighborhood Navigators, and Peer Support Specialists to provide:

- Training and education around the risks of substance misuse;
- Education on HIV/AIDS; and
- Linkages to services for individuals with HIV and substance use disorders.

SAMHSA will award over $16 million in total funding to eligible community-based agencies who provide these services to individuals living with or at risk of HIV and substance use disorders in minority communities. Since
Brooklyn has been identified as an area hardest hit by the HIV epidemic, applicants operating in the borough will receive slight favor.

Click here for a summary of the funding opportunity announcement or view the full-length version here. Applications are due on December 27th.

**Updated Patient Safety Goals from the Joint Commission**

*See below for National Patient Safety Goals for 2020.*

In October, the Joint Commission released updated National Patient Safety Goals for 2020. The goals focus on problems in health care safety, including identifying patients correctly, using medicines and alarms safely, and preventing infection and mistakes in surgery, and actionable ways to solve them are provided.

We advise all of our JCAHO-accredited partners to review these goals and post them in their facilities.

**Waiver to Provide Detoxification Services in Excess of Bed/Patient Day Thresholds Extended Permanently**

Hospitals that have or are seeking to obtain time-limited waivers to treat individuals requiring detoxification services beyond their current OASAS certifications should understand that these waivers are now valid indefinitely.

Please see the message below from the Greater New York Hospital Association:

On November 7, the New York State Department of Health (DOH) and Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) published “Dear Administrator Letter” (DAL) 19-15, which permanently continues waivers for providers seeking to treat individuals requiring hospital-based detoxification services beyond their OASAS-certified threshold or without an OASAS operating certificate.

Time-limited waivers issued in accordance with previously issued DALs 18-05 and 18-19 will remain valid indefinitely. Hospitals seeking a new waiver are required to notify OASAS via e-mail at legal@oasas.ny.gov. Requests to provide detoxification services beyond the OASAS threshold without the need for an OASAS operating certificate will get responses within five business days of receipt.

Hospitals with existing waivers and those given future waivers will have to provide OASAS with limited data, including but not limited to the number of individuals admitted to a particular site under the waiver, primary diagnosis, and length of stay.

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**ATTENTION: LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD**

**UPCOMING INSTRUCTOR-LED TRAININGS**

Unless otherwise noted, these trainings are held at the 1199SEIU Employment Center at 25 Elm Place, Brooklyn, NY. To offset some of the costs incurred by organizations to send certain staff to training, CCB provides its partners with stipends for the number of hours spent in training, and attendees may be eligible to receive CME or CEU credit. Click the links below to enroll.
ONLINE TRAININGS VIA CCB’S RESOURCE PORTAL

To access CCB’s catalog of CME or CEU-eligible online courses, existing users can log in to the CCB Resource Portal and browse the “My Training” section. New users can easily self-register to access these features (click below to watch a brief video explaining the registration process). Please contact support@CCBrooklyn.org if you have any questions or have any difficulty.

Highlighted online courses this month:

- Coding & Billing- Clinical Track (CME-eligible)
- Coding & Billing- Coding/Billing Track (CEU-eligible)
- Asthma e-Learning
- e-Learning: Hypertension and The Million Hearts Campaign
- The Basics of Diabetes e-Learning
- Cholesterol e-Learning Interactive

Previously Recorded Primary Care Webinars:

- Advance Care Planning in the Seriously Ill—Best Practices in Goals Discussion
- Social Determinants and Health Disparities
- Team-based Care
- Care Planning
- Risk Stratification
- Care Management

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