THE MENTAL HEALTH ABC ACT: REMOVING BARRIERS TO CARE

Congratulations to the Massachusetts Senate! On Thursday, Feb-
ruary 13, 2020, the Senate unanimously passed An Act Addressing
Barriers to Care for Mental Health (Mental Health ABC Act).
This comprehensive mental health care reform legislation is a
milestone that will promote a more integrated system of mental
health care delivery.

The Mental Health ABC Act looks to “remove barriers to timely
quality care, provide the state with more effective tools to enforce
existing mental parity laws and invest in the mental and behav-
ioral health workforce pipeline” (Bill Announcement). The leg-
islation establishes new enforcement mechanisms for the state
to ensure parity. It calls for an expanded and more diverse prac-
titioner workforce. It also sets a rate floor to pay mental health
clinicians the same as primary care providers for similar services.

The Senate recognized that access to quality mental health care
should be comparable to that for other conditions. A person re-
quiring hospitalization for Bipolar Disorder should have the same
access to emergency care, timely hospitalization, step-down facili-
ties and outpatient follow-up as a person presenting with symp-
toms of a myocardial infarction.

President George W. Bush signed the Paul Wellstone and Pete
Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act into law
in 2008. Real parity requires that insurance coverage for mental
health and substance use disorders should be no more restrictive
than insurance for any other medical condition. States have been
tasked to act as the primary enforcement authority over insurers
selling health insurance policies in their states.

The Federal Parity Law has been difficult to implement fully.
Insurers are generally compliant with provisions such as ensur-
ing that copays and visit limits for mental health and addiction
treatment are no more restrictive than for treatment of other medi-
cal conditions. There can be differences between mental health
and other medical coverage related to how insurers design and
apply their managed care practices such as prior authorization,
step therapy and requirements for a provider to join a network.
Often, insurers will have designed and applied these managed care
techniques in a manner that unfortunately is more restrictive for
mental health and substance use disorder treatment than for other
medical treatment.

The Mental Health ABC Act addresses these parity issues. The
Division of Insurance would gain oversight and enforcement tools,
which are necessary to demonstrate that insurance companies treat
mental health coverage consistent with that for other conditions.
Health Insurance Carriers have been able to self-report compliance
with parity. The legislation would require that carriers report
information about their compliance yearly based on specified
measures and could face state penalties for any violations.

The APA and MPS have been working in concert with our legis-
latively supporters on parity legislation. The APA drafted model
parity-implementation legislation for all 50 states and the District
of Columbia, requiring transparency and accountability from in-
surers and state regulators. Tim Clement, Director of Legislative
Development at the APA was instrumental in the effort that led to
the passage of the parity provisions in the Senate. He traveled to
Massachusetts several times to meet with legislators and negotiate
with insurance agency representatives. Our immediate past presi-
dent, Dr. Gary Chimlan and our lobbyist, Lisa Simonetti deserve
our thanks for working diligently last year with the APA to draft
legislation for Massachusetts that would require transparency and
accountability from insurers and state regulators.

Mental Health ABC Act addressed barriers to care. One provision
would remove a barrier to care by eliminating prior authorization
requirements by insurers for adults and children seeking treatment
for acute mental health crises, parallelizing the requirements for re-
cieving emergency physical treatment. The legislation calls for the
establishment of a commission to study medical necessity criteria.
This provision will help to ensure that patients are not wrongly
denied essential mental health services.

(continued on page 3)
Below is the slate of candidates for the 2020/21 Election. We want to thank the MPS members who nominated candidates, and to the candidates who have agreed to run for office. We would also like to thank the Nominating Committee (Co-Chairs: Gary Chinman, Sally Reyering and committee members, Marie Hobart, Janet Osterman, Auralyd Padilla and Christie Sams for their work on the committee.

According to the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society Bylaws, additional nominations to those listed below may be made by a petition signed by twenty-five (25) or more members eligible to vote. The nominating petitions must be filed with the Secretary by March 25, 2020 and can be submitted via e-mail to mps@mms.org.

Voting begins for the 2020/21 MPS Election on March 30, 2020 at www.psychiatry-mps.org. Please log on to the MPS website as a member and click on the 2020 Ballot link on the home page to cast your votes. If you have trouble logging onto the website, please contact the MPS office at (781) 237-8100 or mps@mms.org. If you would like to opt-out of online voting, please contact the MPS office and we can mail or fax you a paper ballot. Voting must be completed by the close of business on April 17, 2020.

President-Elect (1 Position)
John Bradley, MD, DFAPA

Secretary (1 Position)
Parnika Saxena, MD, FAPA

APA Representatives (2 Positions)
Daniel Breslin, MD
Michelle Durham, MD, MPH, FAPA*
David Geltman, MD
David Gitlin, MD, DFAPA

Councilors (2 Positions)
Mohit Chopra, MD, FAPA
Jessica Isom, MD, MPH
Adeliza Olivero, MD FAPA
Ruthann Rizzi, MD, FAPA

Resident Fellow Member (1 Position)
Natalie Feldman, MD
Arielle Greenstein, MD
Lucy Lan, MD

Nominating Committee (2 Positions)
Mark Albanese, MD, FAPA
Anthony Rothschild, MD, DL,FAPA
Christine Wittmann, MD

*Indicates incumbent

**Marilyn Price, M.D.**
President

**Sally Reyering, M.D.**
President-Elect

**Gary Chinman, M.D.**
Immediate Past-President

**Siu Ping Chin Feman, M.D.**
Secretary 2018 - 2020

**Mark J. Hauser, M.D.**
Treasurer 2019-2021

**Patrick Aquino, M.D.**
Sr. APA Representative 2019 - 2022

**Donald A. Smith, M.D.**
President

**M. Cornelia Cremens, M.D., MPH**
Lynda Layer, CAE
Administrative Director

**Mayuri Patel**
Member Relations Coordinator

**Debbie Brennan**
Continuing Medical Education Coordinator

**NEW PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL**

**OPENING IN THE SPRING OF 2020 IN DEDHAM, MA, THE WALDEN BEHAVIORAL CARE CENTER FOR EATING DISORDER RECOVERY WILL BE THE LARGEST 24-HOUR EATING DISORDER TREATMENT CENTER IN THE COUNTRY HOUSING 38 INPATIENT AND 44 RESIDENTIAL BEDS FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS. LED BY CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, JAMES GREENBLATT, MD, WE ARE EXCITED TO BE EXPANDING OUR PSYCHIATRY DEPARTMENT AND ARE LOOKING FOR DEDICATED PROFESSIONALS.**

**WE ARE HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING ROLES:**
- Psychiatrists
- Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners
- DOC Telemedicine Opportunities

**WHY WALDEN?**
- Generous salary and benefits packages
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- Career development and growth opportunities
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- Flexible schedules

**Walden Behavioral Care is a rapidly-growing, national mental health care system specializing in the treatment of eating disorders. We are one of the only organizations committed to serving individuals of all genders and eating disorder diagnoses at all levels of care. We currently have 15 locations across New England and Georgia and have spent the past 15 years utilizing our evidence-based, personalized approach to treatment to help more than 20,000 people on their road to recovery.**

**CONTACT:**

**ANA MARQUES, 857-246-4038**
**AMARQUES@WALDENBEHAVIORALCARE.COM**

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ADDITION PSYCHIATRIST
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, a 650+ bed tertiary care teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School, is recruiting highly qualified addiction psychiatrists. The Department of Psychiatry is a major teaching site for Harvard Medical School and the BIDMC Harvard Psychiatry Residency Training Program; positions will include opportunities for teaching medical students and residents and for faculty development. A Harvard Medical School appointment at the rank of instructor, assistant, or associate professor would be commensurate with the record of accomplishments. This full-time staff position involves clinical care and opportunities to participate in the training of psychiatric residents in the Division of Addiction Psychiatry. The clinical care involves inpatient and outpatient consultations and ongoing treatment of outpatients in our Addiction Psychiatry clinic. Formal teaching and research are possible. Certification (or eligibility) in Addiction Psychiatry is desirable.

Applications are made online at www.hmfphysicians.org/careers. Please respond to requisition #201062. We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy and pregnancy-related conditions or any other characteristic protected by law.

Geriatric Psychiatrists
BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL
Department of Psychiatry

The Department of Psychiatry at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) established a new Division of Geriatric Psychiatry in 2018 and is expanding outpatient clinical geriatric psychiatry and collaborative care services. We are seeking innovative geriatric psychiatrists or specialty-trained psychiatrists with relevant expertise to help lead and contribute to these important clinical initiatives. Relevant areas of expertise include but are not limited to Neuropsychiatry, Integrated Care, Psychosomatic Medicine, and clinical research experience. There are opportunities to participate in and expand our Geriatric Psychiatry and Neuropsychiatry of Aging research activities. Geriatric Psychiatry at BWH builds upon departmental and institutional strengths in Neuropsychiatry, Medical Psychiatry, and Alzheimer’s Disease research and treatment, and is committed to the advancement of evidenced-based treatments across the full range of therapeutic modalities. BWH is a primary teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School. Successful candidates will demonstrate a commitment to clinical excellence, innovation and scholarship. They will be integral to the mission of teaching and clinical training of medical students, residents and fellows. Applicants are required to have an MD or equivalent degree with board certification or board eligible status.

Academic rank at Harvard Medical School will be commensurate with experience, training and achievements.

If interested, please send your CV to: Nancy Donovan, MD, Director of Geriatric Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Brigham and Women's Hospital, 60 Fenwood Road, 4th floor, Boston, MA 02115; nndonovan@bwh.harvard.edu

Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women’s Hospital are Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employers. We strongly encourage applications from women and minorities.

We know that currently mental health providers are reimbursed at a different rate than primary care providers. The Act creates an “equitable rate floor” for “evaluation and management services that is consistent with primary care” and calls for quicker resolution of parity complaints by consumers (Bill announcement).

The Act calls for an examination of the role of behavioral health managers. The Act provides that the Health Policy Commission in consultation with the Division of Insurance would study and provide data on the use of “carve-outs.”

There are provisions that address workforce issues. These include: studying access to culturally competent care; standardizing credentialing forms; moving licensing boards for social workers, psychologists and allied mental health professionals from the Division of Professional Licensure to DPH; allowing interim licensure for licensed mental health counselors and creating a mental health workforce pipeline.

There are provisions that address access. Every hospital with an emergency department would need to “have the capacity to evaluate and manage patients with mental health presentation at all times.” One amendment that the Senate adopted calls for protocols capping at 48 hours, the amount of time patients younger than 21 can be held in emergency departments before placement into inpatient psychiatric treatment.

Stigma has contributed to the disparities in insurance coverage and health care access for children, adults and their families. Leaders in the senate are combating stigma by being open about personal or family struggles with mental illness. The legislation they constructed is a big step forward in decreasing stigma and achieving parity.

The bill has been a priority for our Senate President, Karen Spilka, who spoke so eloquently about her father’s struggles with untreated mental illness at MPS’s last annual meeting. Her father had symptoms resulting from his service during World War II. At a press conference prior to the debate in the Senate, she explained, “I speak about it because I truly believe we have to break the silence, we have to have this conversation.

Sen. Julian Cyr, co-chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery and a leading sponsor, disclosed during the Senate debate that he has been open about his therapy for depression and anxiety. However, he said, that he struggled to get insurance coverage for his outpatient treatment. Senate Cindy Friedman, cochair of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing and a chief architect of the legislation noted, “Mental health has long been treated as the stepchild of the health care system.”

The bill will now go to the House. As in the Senate, there are many house members who are committed to passing legislation to improve access to treatment for persons with mental illness and create parity. I once asked the Speaker of the House, Robert DeLeo which issue is raised the most by his constituents and he immediately responded, mental health and substance abuse. Our governor, Charlie Baker has proposed a bill which recognizes the importance of psychiatric care and would require both insurers and providers to significantly increase the spending on primary, mental health and senior care. Governor Charlie Baker’s bill will result in a shift in spending to primary and mental health care.

I am hopeful that the Mental Health ABC Act will be the first of many measures passed by our legislature to benefit persons with mental illness. Senator Spilka intends for this bill to lay a foundation but further legislation will be needed to improve provision of mental health care and its own system.

Senator Spilka began the year with a Facebook post, showing her determination and commitment. “There is no area of our personal, civic or economic lives that isn’t touched by the need for quality mental health care, and as Senate President I will continue to fight for access to, and understanding of the need for, a complete continuum of mental and physical health care.”

State Senator Cindy Friedman concurred, “I couldn’t agree more with Senate President Karen Spilka’s New Year’s Resolution! We need to work hard each and every day to reduce stigma and increase access to real mental health services in the Commonwealth. Mental Health is just as important as physical health and it’s time we treat it as such.” (Facebook Post, Thursday, January 2, 2020).

We have been fortunate that our Governor and our Senate and House leadership are committed to crafting legislation to decrease stigma and increase access to high quality mental health treatment. The MPS will be ready to work with our allies in advocating for further legislation to promote our mission.

Marilyn Price, MD
President
Massachusetts Psychiatric Society

MPS Offers Newsletter by E-mail

The MPS would like to offer to our members an opportunity to receive their MPS newsletter by email. There are several advantages to this:

• You will receive the newsletter sooner (by about one week)
• All links will be “live” so you can go directly to the link
• You will be helping to save the environment; and
• You will be helping to cut costs of publication.

We recognize that many members will want to continue to receive their newsletter in the mail. This will continue to be an option as long as there are members who wish to receive their newsletter in this way. For those of you who would prefer to receive your newsletter by email you will need to contact the MPS office, either by telephone (781-237-8100 x1) or by email to mps@mms.org. Please be sure to confirm your email address. Because the newsletter is not in the public domain since it is a member benefit, you will need to log onto the MPS Website (www.psychiatry-mps.org) with your username and password.
2020 Risk Avoidance & Risk Management Conference

Program Overview

We are pleased to present the 2020 Risk Avoidance & Risk Management Conference. This activity is designed to inform psychiatrists about the strategies available to navigate the complicated world of psychiatric practice. The lectures will address the following key areas:

- Trends and best practices to reduce risks in psychiatric practice
- A claim of malpractice liability
- Recent and revised regulations by the Board of Registration in Medicine: Informed consent, prescription monitoring program
- Complaints to the Board of Registration in Medicine or hospital disciplinary actions
- Problems charging Medicaid and Medicare patients privately
- Planning for retirement
- The emergency closing of a practice
- The electronic medical record
- Telemedicine
- And other timely topics as requested by the audience

The primary goal is to explore “real life” concerns faced by practicing psychiatrists and to ensure these topics are addressed using the latest risk management principles from clinical and legal perspectives. Highlights of this year’s course include a presentation by Dr. Guthell regarding the psychiatrist involved in court or other legal proceeding, a presentation by Attorney Michael Porter representing the MPS legal consultation plan and addressing the concerns of psychiatrists that arise all year. Anne Huben-Kearney, RN, will present the perspective of a malpractice insurer as it relates to psychiatric practice and behavioral health. The conference will combine didactic presentations, informative written materials, and ample time for questions and answers, closing with an active and participatory panel discussion.

We encourage you to submit questions in advance to dbrennan@mms.org. You may also present questions in writing to the moderator on the day of the program.

To register for this event, visit www.psychiatry-mps.org or call (781) 237-8100

Program Schedule

Saturday, March 14, 2020
8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
Massachusetts Medical Society
960 Winter Street, Waltham, MA 02451

Facility Medical Director (Cape Cod and Islands Mental Health Center, Pocasset, MA): Provides administrative and clinical oversight for the DMH-operated and contracted state hospital and community support programs. Clinical Care in our Partial Hospital program.

Full-Time Inpatient Psychiatrist (Cape Cod and Islands Mental Health Center, Pocasset, MA): Work closely with two psychiatric APRNs, a consulting internist, and a multidisciplinary team.

Full-Time Inpatient Psychiatrist (Taunton State Hospital, Taunton, MA): Inpatient services while providing acute medical care

Full-Time Psychiatrist (Brockton Multi-Service Center, Brockton, MA): Outpatient services.

Full-Time Psychiatrist (Corrigan Mental Health Center, Fall River, MA): Outpatient and partial hospital services, as well as coverage of a 16-bed inpatient unit.

Inpatient Psychiatrist (Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital, Worcester, MA): Be part of a person centered, recovery oriented multidisciplinary team that strives to help individuals lead healthy lives and return safely to the community.

For additional information, please contact: Marie Hobart, MD, Vice Chair, Public Sector Psychiatry. Marie.hobart@umassmed.edu
Geoffrey Botto. geoffrey.botto@umassmed.edu

Interested applicants should apply directly at www.academicjobsonline.org

(J-1 and H-1B candidates are welcome to apply)

Accreditation Statement

The Massachusetts Psychiatric Society is accredited by the Massachusetts Medical Society to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA Credit Designation Statement

The Massachusetts Psychiatric Society designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.25 AMA PRA Category 1™ Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

As the leading employer in the Worcester area, we seek talent and ideas from individuals of varied backgrounds and viewpoints.

The Department of Psychiatry is a national leader in public sector psychiatry, child and adolescent psychiatry, neuropsychiatry, biological psychiatry, psychosocial rehabilitation, women’s mental health, and addiction psychiatry. We integrate our clinical, research, teaching and community partnership activities to help individuals and families transform their lives through recovery from mental illness and addiction. We are particularly interested in having Faculty join our Department who are motivated for a career in clinical research. We are the largest provider of psychiatric services in central Massachusetts, with over 400 faculty members and 12 hospitals and community mental health centers.

Our Co-Chair and Moderator

Mark J. Hauser, MD, Activity Co-chair and Moderator
Anne Huben-Kearney, RN. David (Sheldon) Benjamin, MD, Co-chair and Moderator.

Chief Medical Officer (CHL, Worcester, MA): Supervision of a large group of professionals and participation in development efforts serving ~22,000 individuals each year.

Medical Director (Adult Outpatient Psychiatry, Worcester, MA): Clinical Academic oversight of a new 38-office outpatient teaching clinic.

Medical Director (Adult Inpatient Psychiatry, PTCR, Worcester, MA): Provide psychiatric and medical supervision and direction to mental health and substance abuse services to a 26-bed locked unit.

Adult Outpatient Attending Psychiatrist (CHL, Worcester, MA): Outpatient clinic in Worcester serving a diverse population with mental health and substance use disorders.

Adult Inpatient Attending Psychiatrist (PTCR, Worcester, MA): Inpatient services while providing acute medical care.

General Adult Outpatient Psychiatrist (Worcester, MA): Outpatient services while providing behavioral healthcare services.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and curriculum vitae addressed to Sheldon Benjamin, MD, e/o: Jessica Saintelus, Physician Recruiter. Jessica.Saintelus@umassmemorial.org
http://jobs.jobsite.com/umassmemorialmedicalgroupphysicians/search?q= desired job title=Psychiatry

The Massachusetts Psychiatric Society is a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society.
Adult and Child Psychiatry- Greater Boston, Massachusetts

Atrius Health has full and part-time openings for BC/BE adult and/or child psychiatrists in multiple locations including the Metro Boston area, Metro-West and Merrimack Valley. Responsibilities include outpatient psychiatric evaluation, treatment planning and integrated psychiatric treatment and medication management services. Our psychiatry clinical schedules offer one-hour intakes and 20-30 minute follow-up appointments.

The behavioral health team works closely with our medical colleagues (internists, pediatricians and gynecologists) in addition to a multidisciplinary team of behavioral health clinicians (psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and clinical nurse specialists) in a collaborative approach to delivering outpatient psychiatric and behavioral health care. Our care model is based on continuous quality improvement characterized by empirical evidence and peer reviewed literature for standards of care that are both specific in the treatment of psychiatric illness, yet broad enough to allow for a wide array of techniques. Our innovative model includes treatment plans designed around evidence-based treatment principles put together by a multidisciplinary team and includes smaller caseloads for psychotherapists based on weekly psychotherapy sessions, routine measurement of patient self-reported symptoms, a review of data with the patient at each clinical session, weekly peer consultation on cases, and robust group programs. Join us and be part of the ongoing, cutting edge design of this team based care model.

Our group offers many of the best aspects of an academic medical center in a not for profit outpatient medical setting. Experience with Addiction Psychiatry is a plus. Our practice features a fully integrated EHR (Epic), excellent practice supports (appointment booking/reception, billing and authorization support), after-hours telephonic clinical triage services, competitive salaries and a comprehensive benefits package including a generous 401(k) plan.

Call is infrequent and light, as MDs telephonically support the after-hours triage service and cover only from 5pm to 11am on weekdays, 8am – 11pm on weekends.

Please forward your CV to: Physician Recruitment, Atrius Health, 275 Grove Street, Suite 3-300, Newton, MA, 02466. Fax: 617-559-8255; e-mail: Physician.Recruitment@atriushealth.org, or call: 800-222-4606, or 617-559-8275 within Massachusetts. EOE/AA.

www.atriushealth.org

Massachusetts Senators Spilka, Rodrigues, Friedman and Cyr rally with invited guests at the State House before debate on An Act Addressing Barriers to Care for Mental Health

Comments delivered at Parity Rally at the State House
By Gary Chinman, MD
Delivered February 13th

This bill, this legislation, this historic legislation is a tremendous step forward in the longstanding, ongoing effort to enable residents of Massachusetts to gain access to the appropriate mental health care they need and deserve. Senate President Spilka, Sen. Friedman, Sen. Cyr, and Sen. Rodrigues deserve our gratitude and admiration for the insight, the foresight, the compassion and the respect with which they crafted this critically necessary bill.

Mental health and substance use disorders are, in aggregate, the most common, serious and, very badly, poten- tially fatal health conditions of any type, and yet these conditions have for far too long been seen as shameful. It has not been all that long, certainly within my lifetime, since people felt ashamed by receiving the diagnoses of cancer or even diabetes. I look forward to the day, certainly helped by this bill, when patients can discuss their mental health and substance use problems with their clinicians in the same focused, matter of fact attitude that they talk about their blood sugar or blood pressure readings AND GET THE CARE they need.

This profoundly important bill will help us to achieve exactly that. Thank you!
Job openings for brand-new inpatient units in Adult and Child Psychiatry

The Department of Psychiatry at North Shore Medical Center (NSMC), in affiliation with Massachusetts General Hospital (Mass General), has outstanding opportunities for full-time or part-time BC/BE psychiatrists. Potential opportunities include adult inpatient, CL, outpatient psychiatry, and Substance Use Disorders.

The newly created Epstein Center for Behavioral Health is a 120 bed inpatient facility that includes two adult units, one child and adolescent unit, and one geriatric unit, embedded in a full-service medical center. Each unit will include a team of social workers and a psychiatric Nurse Practitioner to support physicians, optimize workflow, and improve patient care.

Qualified candidates will receive a clinical appointment at both NSMC and Massachusetts General Hospital. The Department of Psychiatry at Mass General is consistently ranked among the best in the nation by U.S. News and World Report and works with NSMC as a community partner. There are multiple opportunities for teaching on-site, and a Tufts Medical School faculty appointment is available for physicians who participate in medical student teaching. There are also educational and research opportunities at Mass General and Harvard Medical School for the appropriate interested candidate.

Salaries are extremely competitive. Evening and weekend call are very reasonable, and provide significant additional compensation. Salem is located on the North Shore of Massachusetts, only 15 miles north of Boston. This region features all the advantages of proximity to a wonderful metropolitan area.

Interested individuals should send their CV and letter of interest to Louis Caligiuri, Director of Physician Services at lcaligiuri@partners.org.

North Shore Medical Center is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Minorities and women are strongly encouraged to apply. Pre-employment drug screening is required. The position is eligible to participate in the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program.

PRMS® ensures that psychiatrists working 20 hours per week or less receive the same unrivaled protection and service as those practicing full-time—at rates up to 60% off.

Part-time psychiatrists have access to our complete program, which includes a psychiatry-specific policy, a multitude of expert risk management resources and materials, and a claims team experienced in psychiatric litigation should you ever need them.

Discounts up to 60% when selecting a partner to protect you and your practice, consider the program that puts psychiatrists first. Contact us today.

For more information, call 202-559-3900 or email membership@psych.org
PSYCHIATRIST

Cambridge Psychiatric Services

PSYCHIATRISTS: Interested in flexible hours, competitive pay rates, and a schedule that fits your needs? Qualified practitioners needed to provide overnight, weekend, and holiday mood-lighting coverage at area hospitals, clinics, and other psychiatric facilities. For more information please call Jessica D’Angio at (617)864-7452 or at jdanigio@northcharles.org

Specialized Healthcare offers practice management services inclusive of front and back office systems, systems to improve billing and collections, IT assistance, finance, human resources and other services as needed. Clients can choose from a menu of options. We offer just the right amount of service based on your need.

Email: mggregg@specializedhealthcareincorporated.com or call 617-777-5460

OFFICE SPACE

PART TIME OFFICE RENTAL - 1180 BEACON STREET Bright furnished office. Large waiting room, Central A/C - Free Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Contact: ginger.chappell@comcast.net

Brookline: 200+ sq ft 3 year old office in a 5 office suite off Harvard Street between Coolidge Corner and Brookline Village. Easy access to public transportation. 2 hr free street parking for patients. Available 7/1. Rent $1500/mo. Includes all utilities and taxes. Contact: Jim Harburger MD 617 232 0861 or email: jsharburgermd@gmail.com

Brookline - Coolidge Corner - Private office with bow front window available for the therapist in townhouse on Harvard St. Common waiting room, utilities included; walk to public transportation. $1,275. Call Michael 617-543-8015, mlberger200@gmail.com

BROOKLINE: A beautiful, fully furnished, sunny, quiet psychotherapy office with private waiting room is available for sublet daily and on Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays. High end, collegiate building office in Coolidge Corner. Evening concierge on weekdays. Office is individually climate controlled. Fully furnished purchased furniture, refrig., microwave and printer for use. Some storage. Easy to access (green line C) and metered parking on street and in park lot. Close to shops and restaurants. Please call 617-966-1476

Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) is an award-winning health system based in Cambridge, Somerville, and Boston’s metro-north communities. We provide innovative primary, specialty, and emergency care to our diverse patient population throughout an established network of outpatient clinics and two full service hospitals. As a Harvard School Medical and Tufts University School of Medicine Affiliate, we offer ample teaching opportunities with Harvard and Tufts residents. We maintain a strong culture of inclusion and offer resources to support our employees and their families. Ideal Candidates will have: Strong commitment to providing high quality care to our multicultural community of underserved patients.

Psychiatry Opportunities: • Adult Psychiatry, Inpatient & Outpatient • Psychiatry Access Service • Primary Care Integration • Outpatient Adult Psychiatry • Outpatient Child Adolescent Psychiatry • Haitian Mental Health Program • Geriatric Psychiatry

Psychology Opportunities: • Adult Outpatient • Child/Adolescent Outpatient • Primary Care Integration • Adult Neuropsychology • Outpatient Child Adolescent Psychiatry • Elderly

Please visit www.CHAproviders.org to learn more and apply through our secure candidate portal. CV’s may be sent directly to Melissa Kelley, CHA Provider Recruiter via email at prcruitment@challiance.org. CHA’s Department of Provider Recruitment may be reached by phone at (617) 665-3553 or by fax at (617) 665-3550.

We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

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Mental Health Billing and Credentialing Specialists Billing and Credentialing solutions for Behavioral Healthcare providers and organizations of all sizes for over 25 years.

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• Dedicated account representative with team support
• Representation for the full cycle - claims submission through collection
• Committed to excellent customer service

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Mental Health Billing and Credentialing Services

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INFOGRAPHIC
Two and a half years ago, the world watched how Puerto Rico got hit by the devastating category five Hurricane Maria. A massive aid response by nonprofit organizations, artists, athletes, government officials, and concerned individuals ensued. The needs of the citizens were numerous, including housing, employment, water, food, and health care. Since then, the island has been through ongoing rebuilding efforts, attempting to return to "normal life." However, as fate would have it, since December 2019 the island has been shaken by hundreds of earthquakes and aftershocks. On January 6th, the southern part of the island experienced a magnitude 5.8 earthquake that caused significant but localized structural damage. Then, the following morning, a magnitude 6.4 earthquake was felt throughout the island, creating a widespread power outage and more structural damage. People in the areas near the epicenter began fleeing their homes, some because they had no house to return to, others because after seeing their neighbor’s houses plummeted to the floor, they were too fearful that theirs would be next. Families spend nights in tents outside their homes, nearby parks, or in shelters. Children have been missing school for weeks or attending impromptu classrooms established in these shelters by volunteers. For Puerto Ricans living in the mainland United States like me, watching the constant media footage of images of destruction, the plea for help inundating social media feeds, and a global sense of impotence can be overwhelming.

These events can threaten the sense of a stable, safe way of living, and bring uncertainty. Philosopher Glenn Albrecht defined the term, \textit{solastalgia}, a combination of the Latin word solacium (comfort) and the Greek root –al-gia (pain), as “the pain experienced when there is a recognition that the place where one resides and that one loves is under immediate assault - a form of homesickness one gets when one is still at home.” In his 2005 article, he described the experiences of persistent drought in New South Wales, and the impact of large-scale open-cut coal mining on individuals in the Upper Hunter Valley of NSW. This concept has become more and more familiar, given the multiple threats to our natural environment. Increased recognition and media coverage of lifelong natural processes, as well as an increase in intensity and frequency of those, makes the pain of solastalgia palpable. Albrecht proposed that there may be multiple causes of solastalgia. For example, drought, fire, flood, war, terrorism, land clearing, mining, rapid institutional change, and the gentrification of older parts of cities. As psychiatrists, it is crucial to identify the impact of environmental changes and natural disasters and recognize psychological manifestations.

In 2015 sponsored by the APA/SAMHSA Minority Fellowship, four Puerto Rican psychiatry residents and I began conducting mental health awareness trips to the island to engage the community in topics related to mental health and recruit students into psychiatry. We were driven by the nostalgia of being far away from home, and the desire to give back to our community. Three years ago, we incorporated our group as a nonprofit organization, CrearConSalud, Inc., as a continuation of our commitment to these efforts. When Hurricane María hit the island, our focus slightly changed to supporting community leaders and local organizations by leading workshops on resilience, hope, burnout, and mindfulness. These leaders have been working tirelessly to rebuild their communities and have been vital to the island’s recovery process.

We partner with local nonprofit organizations that alert us about the needs of the community and their leaders so we can tailor our efforts to their needs. Following the recent earthquakes, we have continued post-disaster interventions. Since our origins, we have conducted 21 trips to the different municipalities of the island, partnered with 28 organizations, and worked with medical students and psychiatry residents. We believe that the mental health of Puerto Ricans is threatened by long-standing sociopolitical issues that become more evident during disasters like the ones we have experienced in the last few years. CrearConSalud will continue to work to support and carry out educational activities to raise public awareness about mental health and strive to assist the professional development of psychiatrists in training and encourage their interest in community psychiatry by recruiting them to be part of our work.

Through this work, we have seen first-hand the individual and collective psychological effects of these disasters and their aftermath. Natural disasters and other environmental threats are, of course, not isolated to our tropical island. Here in the mainland United States, we have encountered and will continue to see the ramifications of these events. Although, in our practice, we may be more likely involved in the response and recovery from disasters, mental health providers can also aid in preparedness for future events to support the mental health and resilience of individuals and communities alike. If you would like to join our efforts or learn more about what we do, please find us on social media platforms or at www.crearconsalud.org.

5. PMID 18027145.
Environmental Threats: A Calling for Psychiatrists to get Involved
Auralyn Padilla, MD
Associate Training Director
University of Massachusetts Medical School

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Cambridge Psychiatric Services

Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) is an award-winning health system based in Cambridge, Somerville, and Boston’s metro-north communities. We provide innovative primary, specialty, and emergency care to our diverse patient population throughout an established network of outpatient clinics and two full service hospitals. As a Harvard Medical School and Tufts University School of Medicine affiliate, we offer ample teaching opportunities with residents and fellows. We maintain a fully integrated EHR and offer competitive compensation packages and comprehensive benefits for our employees and their families. Ideal Candidates will have a strong commitment to providing high quality care to our multicultural community of underserved patients.

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- Child Adolescent Psychiatry
- Geriatric Psychiatry

Psychology Opportunities:
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- Child/Autistic Patient
- Primary Care Integration
- Geriatric Psychology

Please visit www.CHAproviders.org to learn more and apply through our secure candidate portal. CVs may be sent directly to Melissa Kelley, CHA Provider Recruiter via email at providerrecruitment@challiance.org. CHA’s Department of Provider Recruitment may be reached by phone at (617) 665-3535 or by fax at (617) 665-3535.

We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

MPS Bulletin - March 2020

MPS is pleased to welcome the following New Members

General Member:
David W. Fish, MD
Catherine Jacques, MD

Resident Fellow Member:
Amanda B. Bennett, MD
Henry chase Bradford, MD
Jacqueline M. Buchanan, MD
Karla Daniela Calzada, MD
Lily Chan, MD
Stephen Conway, MD
Emily Malavenda, MD

Transfer In:
Bianca Pullen Busch, MD
Carol Lynne Glaskin, MD
Omotola O’Sarumi, MD

MPS Bulletin - March 2020

www.psychiatry-mps.org

Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship-University of Massachusetts Medical School

FELLOWSHIP OPENING: UMass PGY-5 Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship, AGMGE accredited, starting 7/1/2020. This one-year, full-time position involves intensive academic and clinical training. Fellows conduct a wide variety of court-ordered forensic evaluations and rotate at major court clinic sites in Massachusetts. The Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital, a 260 adult bed mental health facility, is the major inpatient training site. Nationally recognized research programs, a major commitment to public sector psychiatry, and strong didactic programs make UMass an exciting place to train. Contact: Paul Noroian, MD, Dept. of Psychiatry, UMass Medical School, 55 Lake Ave. North, Worcester, MA 01655. Tel:(508) 856-1256. Email: Paul.Noroian@umassmed.edu AA/EOE
Job openings for brand-new inpatient units in Adult and Child Psychiatry

The Department of Psychiatry at North Shore Medical Center (NSMC), in affiliation with Massachusetts General Hospital (Mass General), has outstanding opportunities for full-time or part-time BC/BE psychiatrists. Potential opportunities include adult inpatient, CL, outpatient psychiatry, and Substance Use Disorders.

The newly created Epstein Center for Behavioral Health is a 120 bed inpatient facility that includes two adult units, one child and adolescent unit, and one geriatric unit, embedded in a full-service medical center. Each unit will include a team of social workers and a psychiatric Nurse Practitioner to support physicians, optimize workflow, and improve patient care.

Qualified candidates will receive a clinical appointment at both NSMC and Massachusetts General Hospital. The Department of Psychiatry at Mass General is consistently ranked among the best in the nation by U.S. News and World Report and works with NSMC as a community partner. There are multiple opportunities for teaching on-site, and a Tufts Medical School faculty appointment is available for physicians who participate in medical student teaching. There are also educational and research opportunities at Mass General and Harvard Medical School for the appropriate interested candidate.

Salaries are extremely competitive. Evening and weekend call are very reasonable, and provide significant additional compensation. Salem is located on the North Shore of Massachusetts, only 15 miles north of Boston. This region features all the advantages of proximity to a wonderful metropolitan area.

Interested individuals should send their CV and letter of interest to Louis Caligiuri, Director of Physician Services at lcaligiuri@partners.org.

North Shore Medical Center is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Minorities and women are strongly encouraged to apply. Pre-employment drug screening is required. The position is eligible to participate in the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program.

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Benefits:
- Pay your membership dues in installments.
- No interest or service fee.
- Automatic renewal in the Scheduled Payment Plan until you choose to cancel.
- Obtain member discount for Annual Meeting without full dues payment prior to the meeting.

Download the enrollment form online at www.psychiatry.org/join under Payment Options.

**Pay Your Dues in Installments!**

**Know the Facts About APA Membership**

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Not a member? Join at www.psychiatry.org/join.
Adult and Child Psychiatry- Greater Boston, Massachusetts

Atrius Health has full and part-time openings for BC/BE adult and/or child psychiatrists in multiple locations including the Metro Boston area, Metro-West and Merrimack Valley. Responsibilities include outpatient psychiatric evaluation, treatment planning and integrated psychiatric treatment and medication management services. Our psychiatry clinical schedules offer one-hour intakes and 20-30 minute follow-up appointments.

The behavioral health team works closely with our medical colleagues (internists, pediatricians and gynecologists) in addition to a multidisciplinary team of behavioral health clinicians (psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and clinical nurse specialists) in a collaborative approach to delivering outpatient psychiatric and behavioral health care. Our care model is based on continuous quality improvement characterized by empirical evidence and peer reviewed literature for standards of care that are both specific in the treatment of psychiatric illness, yet broad enough to allow for a wide array of techniques. Our innovative model includes treatment plans designed around evidence-based treatment principles put together by a multidisciplinary team and includes smaller caseloads for psychotherapists based on weekly psychotherapy sessions, routine measurement of patient self-reported symptoms, a review of data with the patient at each clinical session, weekly peer consultation on cases, and robust group programs. Join us and be part of the ongoing, cutting edge design of this team based care model.

Our group offers many of the best aspects of an academic medical center in a not for profit outpatient medical setting. Experience with Addiction Psychiatry is a plus. Our practice features a fully integrated EHR (Epic), excellent practice supports (appointment booking/reception, billing and authorization support), after-hours telephonic clinical triage services, competitive salaries and a comprehensive benefits package including a generous 401(k) plan.

Call is infrequent and light, as MDs telephonically support the after-hours triage service and cover only from 5pm to 11am on weekdays, 8am – 11pm on weekends.

Please forward your CV to: Physician Recruitment, Atrius Health, 275 Grove Street, Suite 3-300, Newton, MA, 02466. Fax: 617-559-8255; e-mail: Physician.Recruitment@atriushealth.org, or call: 800-222-4606; or 617-559-8275 within Massachusetts. EOE/AA. www.atriushealth.org

Massachusetts Mental Health Center & Vinfen seeking a Full Time Psychologist in Boston

Job Description:

Vinfen, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health and the Massachusetts Mental Health Center (MMHC), a state operated mental health clinic, is seeking a full-time licensed psychologist to join its vibrant community psychiatry clinic.

Responsibilities include performing treatment needs assessments, individual psychotherapy, and group treatment for individuals with serious and persistent mental illness, including substance abuse disorders. Candidates who possess substantial knowledge and experience conducting cognitive-behavioral therapy and dialectic behavioral therapy with this population, as well as those who have experience working with diverse populations, will be strongly preferred. This psychology position would be part of a well-established multi-disciplinary team, administratively embedded in the MA Department of Mental Health.

The MMHC is affiliated with the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Department of Psychiatry. This position will provide opportunities for teaching and supervision along with appointment as Instructor or Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School. Opportunities to provide supervision of psychology interns within our APA-approved pre-doctoral psychology internship are available. Benefits package including health insurance, dental insurance and paid time off offered through Vinfen.

Schedule: Monday – Friday 8:30 am to 5 pm

The successful candidate will meet the following qualifications:

- Licensed as a psychologist in Massachusetts.
- Knowledge and experience working with adults with severe and persistent mental illness in community settings.
- Knowledge and experience with adults who are dually diagnosed.
- Able to work independently as well as part of a multidisciplinary team.
- All candidates must be able to successfully pass a CORI, reference, multi-state background and driving record check.

For immediate consideration, please submit your cover letter and CV to Jonesst@vinfen.org.

Vinfen is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, protected veteran status, or disability status.

FOR ADDITIONAL ADVERTISING INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT THE MPS OFFICE AT
(781) 237-8100 x1
OR
MPS@MMS.ORG

Massachusetts Senators Spilka, Rodrigues, Friedman and Cyr rally with invited guests at the State House before debate on An Act Addressing Barriers to Care for Mental Health

Comments delivered at Parity Rally at the State House
By Gary Chinman, MD
Delivered February 13th

This bill, this legislation, this historic legislation is a tremendous step forward in the longstanding, ongoing effort to enable residents of Massachusetts to gain access to the appropriate mental health care they need and deserve. Senate President Spilka, Sen. Friedman, Sen. Cyr, and Sen. Rodrigues deserve our gratitude and admiration for the insight, the foresight, the compassion and the respect with which they crafted this critically necessary bill.

Mental health and substance use disorders are, in aggregate, the most common, serious and, very sadly, potentially fatal health conditions of any type, and yet these conditions have for far too long been seen as shameful. It has not been all that long, certainly within my lifetime, since people felt ashamed by receiving the diagnoses of cancer or even diabetes. I look forward to the day, certainly helped by this bill, when patients can discuss their mental health and substance use problems with their clinicians with the same focused, matter of fact attitude that they talk about their blood sugar or blood pressure readings AND GET THE CARE they need.

This profoundly important bill will help us to achieve exactly that. Thank you!
To register for this event, visit www.psychiatry-mps.org or call (781) 237-8100

Program Overview

The primary goal is to explore "real life" concerns faced by practicing psychiatrists and to ensure these topics are addressed using the latest risk management principles from clinical and legal perspectives. Highlights of this year's course include a presentation by Dr. Gutheil regarding the psychiatrist involved in court or other legal proceeding, a presentation by Attorney Michael Porter representing the MPS legal consultation plan and addressing the concerns of psychiatrists that arise all year. Anne Huben-Kearney, RN will present the perspective of a malpractice insurer as it relates to psychiatric practice and behavioral health. The conference will combine didactic presentations, informative written materials, and ample time for questions and answers, closing with an active and participatory panel discussion.

We encourage you to submit questions in advance to dbenjamin@mps.org. You may also present questions in writing to the moderator on the day of the program.

To register for this event, visit www.psychiatry-mps.org or call (781) 237-8100

Accreditation Statement

The Massachusetts Psychiatric Society is accredited by the Massachusetts Medical Society to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA Credit Designation Statement

This activity meets the criteria of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine for risk management study. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Program Schedule

Saturday, March 14, 2020
8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
Massachusetts Medical Society
960 Winter Street, Waltham, MA 02451

8:30 a.m. Registration and Networking Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introduction
Mark J. Hauser, MD, Activity Co-chair and Moderator
Joel Brown, MD, Activity Supervisor
Co-chair
9:15 a.m. The Psychiatrist Facing Legal Proceedings or Court: A Survival Guide
Thomas G. Gutheil, MD
10:00 a.m. Questions and Answers
10:30 a.m. BREAK
10:45 p.m. – Calls to the MPS Legal Consultation Plan: A Review of Psychiatrists’ Concerns and Strategies to Address Them
– Update Regarding New Board of Registration in Medicine regulations
Michael T. Porter, Esq.
11:45 a.m. Questions and Answers
12:15 p.m. LUNCH
1:00 p.m. Risk Management and Behavioral Health: A Malpractice Insurer’s Perspective
Anne Huben-Kearney, RN
2:00 p.m. Questions and Answers
2:30 p.m. "Ask the Experts" Session
Panel Discussions and Open Forum
Mark J. Hauser, MD, Moderator
Thomas G. Gutheil, MD
Michael T. Porter, Esq.
Anne Huben-Kearney, RN
3:30 p.m. Adjourn

Facility Medical Director (Cape Cod and Islands Mental Health Center, Pocasset, MA): Provides administrative and clinical oversight for the DMH-operated and contracted state hospital and community support programs. Clinical Care in our Partial Hospital program.

Full-Time Inpatient Psychiatrist (Cape Cod and Islands Mental Health Center, Pocasset, MA): Provides administrative and clinical oversight for the DMH-operated and contracted state hospital and community support programs. Clinical Care in our Partial Hospital program.

Full-Time Inpatient Psychiatrist (Taunton State Hospital, Taunton, MA): Inpatient services while providing acute medical care. Full-Time Psychiatrist (Brockton Multi-Serivce Center, Brockton, MA): Outpatient services.

Inpatient Psychiatrist (Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital, Worcester, MA): Be part of a person centered, recovery oriented multidisciplinary team that strives to help individuals lead healthy lives and return safely to the community.

For additional information, please contact:
Marie Hobart, MD, Vice Chair, Public Sector Psychiatry
marie.hobart@umassmed.edu

Geoffrey Botton
geoffrey.botton@umassmed.edu

Interested applicants should apply directly at www.academicjobsonline.org

(J-1 and H-1B candidates are welcome to apply)

As the leading employer in the Worcester area, we seek talent and ideas from individuals of varied backgrounds and viewpoints.

U Mass Memorial Health Care and the University of Massachusetts Medical School currently have openings within the Department of Psychiatry.

The Department of Psychiatry is a national leader in public sector psychiatry, child and adolescent psychiatry, neuropsychiatry, biological psychiatry, psychosocial rehabilitation, women’s mental health, and addiction psychiatry. We integrate our clinical, research, teaching and community partnership activities to help individuals and families transform their lives through recovery from mental illness and addiction. We are particularly interested in having Faculty join our Department who are motivated for a career in clinical research. We are the largest provider of psychiatric services in central Massachusetts, with over 400 faculty members and 12 hospitals and community mental health centers.

Our residency program trains 7 residents per year, including general psychiatry and specialty tracks for combined adult and child psychiatry and combined neurology. We offer fellowships in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Addiction Psychiatry, Forensic Psychiatry, Neuropsychiatry, and Adult Developmental Disabilities. Interested candidates should send their curriculum vitae addressed to Dr. Sheldon Benjamin.

Chief Medical Officer (CHL, Worcester, MA): Supervision of a large group of professionals and participation in development efforts serving ~22,000 individuals each year.

Medical Director (Adult Outpatient Psychiatry, Worcester, MA): Clinical Academic oversight of a new 38-office outpatient teaching clinic.

Medical Director (Adult Inpatient Psychiatry, PTRC, Worcester, MA): Provide psychiatric and medical supervision and direction to mental health and substance abuse services to a 26-bed locked unit.

Adult Outpatient Attending Psychiatrist (CHL, Worcester, MA): Outpatient clinic in Worcester serving a diverse population with mental health and substance use disorders.

Adult Inpatient Attending Psychiatrist (PTRC, Worcester, MA): Inpatient services while providing acute medical care.

General Adult Outpatient Psychiatrist (Worcester, MA): Outpatient services while providing behavioral healthcare services.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and curriculum vitae addressed to Sheldon Benjamin, MD:

c/o: Jessica Saintelus, Physician Recruiter
Sheldon.Saintelus@umassmemorial.org

http://jobs.jobvite.com/umassmemorialmedicalgroup/physicians/search?q=Psychiatry
ADDITION PSYCHIATRIST

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, a 650+ bed tertiary care teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School, is recruiting highly qualified addiction psychiatrists. The Department of Psychiatry is a major teaching site for Harvard Medical School and the BIDMC Harvard Psychiatry Residency Training Program; positions will include opportunities for teaching medical students and residents and for faculty development. A Harvard Medical School appointment at the rank of instructor, assistant, or associate professor would be commensurate with the record of accomplishments. This full-time staff position involves clinical care and opportunities to participate in the training of psychiatric residents in the Division of Addiction Psychiatry. The clinical care involves inpatient and outpatient consultations and ongoing treatment of outpatients in our Addiction Psychiatry clinic. Formal teaching and research are possible. Certification (or eligibility) in Addiction Psychiatry is desirable.

Applications are made online at www.hmfphysicians.org/careers. Please respond to requisition #201002. We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy and pregnancy-related conditions or any other characteristic protected by law.

Department of Psychiatry

The Department of Psychiatry at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) established a new Division of Geriatric Psychiatry in 2018 and is expanding outpatient clinical geriatric psychiatry and collaborative care services. We are seeking innovative geriatric psychiatrists or specialty-trained psychiatrists with relevant expertise to help lead and contribute to these important clinical initiatives. Relevant areas of expertise include but are not limited to Neuropsychiatry, Integrated Care, Psychosomatic Medicine, and clinical research experience. There are opportunities to participate in and expand our Geriatric Psychiatry and Neuropsychiatry of Aging research activities. Geriatric Psychiatry at BWH builds upon departmental and institutional strengths in Neuropsychiatry, Medical Psychiatry, and Alzheimer’s Disease research and treatment, and is committed to the advancement of evidenced-based treatments across the full range of therapeutic modalities. BWH is a primary teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School. Successful candidates will demonstrate a commitment to clinical excellence, innovation and scholarship. They will be integral to the mission of teaching and clinical training of medical students, residents and fellows. Applicants are required to have an MD or equivalent degree with board certification or board eligible status.

Academic rank at Harvard Medical School will be commensurate with experience, training and achievements.

If interested, please send your CV to: Nancy Donovan, MD, Director of Geriatric Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, 60 Fenwood Road, 4th floor, Boston, MA 02115; nbdonovan@bwh.harvard.edu

Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women’s Hospital are Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employers. We strongly encourage applications from women and minorities.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

We know that currently mental health providers are reimbursed at a different rate than primary care providers for the same service. The Act creates an “equitable rate floor” for “evaluation and management services that is consistent with primary care” and calls for quicker resolution of parity complaints by consumers (Bill announcement).

The Act calls for an examination of the role of behavioral health managers. The Act provides that the Health Policy Commission in consultation with the Division of Insurance would study and provide data on the use of “carve-outs.”

There are provisions that address workforce issues. These include studying access to culturally competent care; standardizing credentialing forms; moving licensing boards for social workers, psychologists and allied mental health professionals from the Division of Professional Licensure to DPH; allowing interim licensure for licensed mental health counselors and creating a mental health workforce pipeline.

There are provisions that address access. Every hospital with an emergency department would need to “have the capacity to evaluate and stabilize a person admitted with a mental health condition.”

Stigma has contributed to the disparities in insurance coverage and health care access for children, adults and their families. Leaders in the legislature are combating stigma by being open about personal or family struggles with mental illness. The legislation they constructed is a big step forward in decreasing stigma and achieving parity.

The bill has been a priority for our Senate President, Karen Spilka, who spoke so eloquently about her father’s struggles with untreated mental illness at MPS’s last annual meeting. Her father had symptoms resulting from his service during World War II. At a press conference prior to the debate in the Senate, she explained, “I speak about it because I truly believe we have to break the silence, we have to break the stigma.”

Sen. Julian Cyr, co-chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery and a leading sponsor, disclosed during the Senate debate that he has been open about his therapy for depression and anxiety. However, he said, that he struggled to get insurance coverage for his outpatient treatment. Senator Cindy Friedman, cochair of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing and a chief architect of the legislation noted, “Mental health has long been treated as the stepchild of the health care system.”

The bill will now go to the House. As in the Senate, there are many house members who are committed to passing legislation to improve access to treatment for persons with mental illness and create parity. I once asked the Speaker of the House, Robert DeLeo which issue is raised the most by his constituents and he immediately responded, mental health and substance abuse. Our governor, Charlie Baker has proposed a bill which recognizes the importance of psychiatric care and would require both insurers and providers to significantly increase spending on primary, mental health and senior care. Governor Charlie Baker’s bill will result in a shift in spending to primary and mental health care.

I am hopeful that the Mental Health ABC Act will be the first of many more measures passed by our legislature to benefit persons with mental illness. Senator Spilka intends for this bill to lay a foundation but further legislation will be needed to improve provision of mental health care and its own system.

State Senator Cindy Friedman concurred, “I couldn’t agree more with Senate President Karen Spilka’s New Year’s Resolution! We need to work hard each and every day to reduce stigma and increase access to real mental health services in the Commonwealth. Mental Health is just as important as physical health and it’s time we treat it as such.” (Facebook Post, Thursday, January 2, 2020).

We have been fortunate that our Governor and our Senate and House leadership are committed to crafting legislation to decrease stigma and increase access to high quality mental health treatment. The MPS will be ready to work with our allies in advocating for further legislation to promote our mission.

Marilyn Price, MD

President
Massachusetts Psychiatric Society

MPS Offers Newsletter by E-mail

The MPS would like to offer to our members an opportunity to receive their MPS newsletter by email. There are several advantages to this:

• You will receive the newsletter sooner (by about one week)
• All links will be “live” so you can go directly to the link
• You will be helping to save the environment and
• You will be helping to cut costs of publication.

We recognize that many members will want to continue to receive their newsletter in the mail. This will continue to be an option as long as there are members who wish to receive their newsletter in this format. Those of you who would prefer to receive your newsletter by email, you will need to contact the MPS office, either by telephone (781-237-8100 x 1) or by email to mps@mps.org. Please be sure to confirm your email address. The newsletter is not in the public domain since it is a member benefit, you will need to log onto the MPS Website (www.psychiatry-mps.org) with your username and password.

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Below is the slate of candidates for the 2020/21 Election. We want to thank the MPS members who nominated candidates, and to the candidates who have agreed to run for office. We would also like to thank the Nominating Committee (Co-Chairs: Gary Chinman, Sally Reyering and committee members, Marie Hobart, Janet Osterman, Auralyd Padilla and Christie Sams for their work on the committee.

According to the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society Bylaws, additional nominations to those listed below may be made by a petition signed by twenty-five (25) or more members eligible to vote. The nominating petitions must be filed with the Secretary by March 25, 2020 and can be submitted via e-mail to mps@mms.org.

Voting begins for the 2020/21 MPS Election on March 30, 2020 at www.psychiatry-mps.org. Please log on to the MPS website as a member and click on the 2020 Ballot link on the home page to cast your votes. If you have trouble logging onto the website, please contact the MPS office at (781) 237-8100 or mps@mms.org. If you would like to opt-out of online voting, please contact the MPS office and we can mail or fax you a paper ballot. Voting must be completed by the close of business on April 17, 2020.

**President-Elect (1 Position)**
John Bradley, MD, DFAPA

**Secretary (1 Position)**
Parnika Saxena, MD, FAPA

**APA Representatives (2 Positions)**
Daniel Breslin, MD
Michelle Durham, MD, MPH, FAPA*
David Geltman, MD
David Gitlin, MD, DFAPA

**Councilors (2 Positions)**
Mohit Chopra, MD, FAPA
Jessica Isom, MD, MPH
Adeliza Olivero, MD FAPA
Ruthann Rizzi, MD, FAPA

**Resident Fellow Member (1 Position)**
Natalie Feldman, MD
Arielle Greenstein, MD
Lucy Lan, MD

**Nominating Committee (2 Positions)**
Mark Albenske, MD, FAPA
Anthony Rothschild, MD, DL, FAPA
Christine Wittmann, MD

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*Indicates incumbent
**The Mental Health ACT: Removing Barriers to Care**

Congratulations to the Massachusetts Senate! On Thursday, February 13, 2020, the Senate unanimously passed An Act Addressing Barriers to Care for Mental Health (Mental Health ACT). This comprehensive mental health care reform legislation is a milestone that will promote a more integrated system of mental health care delivery.

The Mental Health Act looks to “remove barriers to timely quality care, provide the state with more effective tools to enforce existing mental parity laws and invest in the mental and behavioral health workforce pipeline” (Bill Announcement). The legislation establishes new enforcement mechanisms for the state to ensure parity. It calls for an expanded and more diverse practitioner workforce. It also sets a rare floor to pay mental health clinicians the same as primary care providers for similar services.

The Senate recognized that access to quality mental health care should be comparable to that for other conditions. A person requiring hospitalization for Bipolar Disorder should have the same access to emergency care, timely hospitalization, step-down facilities and outpatient follow-up as a person presenting with symptoms of a myocardial infarction.

President George W. Bush signed the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equitv Act into law in 2008. Real parity requires that insurance coverage for mental health and substance use disorders should be no more restrictive than insurance for any other medical condition. States have been tasked to act as the primary enforcement authority over insurers selling health insurance policies in their states.

The Federal Parity Law has been difficult to implement fully. Insurers are generally compliant with provisions such as ensuring that copays and visit limits for mental health and addiction treatment are no more restrictive than for treatment of other medical conditions. There can be differences between mental health and other medical coverage related to how insurers design and apply their managed care practices such as prior authorization, step therapy and requirements for a provider to join a network. Often, insurers will have designed and applied these managed care techniques in a manner that unfortunately is more restrictive for mental health and substance use disorder treatment than for other medical treatment.

The Mental Health Act addresses these parity issues. The Division of Insurance would gain oversight and enforcement tools, which are necessary to demonstrate that insurance companies treat mental health coverage consistent with that for other conditions. Health Insurance Carriers have been able to self-report compliance with parity. The legislation would require that carriers report information about their compliance yearly based on specified measures and could face state penalties for any violations.

The APA and MPS have been working in concert with our legislative supporters on parity legislation. The APA drafted model parity-implementation legislation for all 50 states and the District of Columbia, requiring transparency and accountability from insurers and state regulators. Tim Clement, Director of Legislative Development at the APA was instrumental in the effort that led to the passage of the parity provisions in the Senate. He traveled to Massachusetts several times to meet with legislators and negotiate with insurance agency representatives. Our immediate past president, Dr. Gary Chizinian and our lobbyist, Lisa Simonetti deserve our thanks for working diligently last year with the APA to draft legislation for Massachusetts that would require transparency and accountability from insurers and state regulators.

Mental Health Act addressed barriers to care. One provision would remove a barrier to care by eliminating prior authorization requirements by insurers for adults and children seeking treatment for acute mental health crises, paralleling the requirements for receiving emergency physical treatment. The legislation calls for the establishment of a commission to study mental health care criteria. This provision will help to ensure that patients are not wrongly denied essential mental health services.

(continued on page 3)