**DBHR COVID-19 call for behavioral health providers**

June 2, 2020

**Acknowledgement of protests & deaths of POC**

* What can you do? How can you use your privilege?
  + [Jane Elliott’s Commitments to Combat Racism](https://janeelliott.com/commitment) – questions to ask self & actions to consider

**DBHR updates** – Michael Langer

* SAMHSA-training and technical assistance related to COVID-19
* Mental health support for veterans
* Prevention - COVID-19 information posted on the [Athena Forum](https://www.theathenaforum.org/COVID19)
* Coalition Leadership Institute was held virtually last week with 140 prevention providers participating
* HCA applied for COVID-19 Emergency Response for Suicide Prevention Grants Treatment – will keep updated

**Behavioral Health Institute updates** – Melody McKee

* Training & TA - <https://bhi-telehealthresource.uwmedicine.org/>
* Telehealth Needs Survey – initial results, 329 responses
  + Will be doing a deeper analysis on region and types of org in full report, as well as section about innovation and positive changes to keep
  + Plan to meet with each ACH & look at their data, how to meet provider needs
  + 329 responses across state
  + Over 90% of respondents using some kind of telehealth
  + 75% were not using telehealth prior to COVID
  + Barriers for clinicians – difficultly contacting patients, access to broadband, access to EMR, access to needed equipment, clinical workflows
  + Barriers for patients – access to broadband/wifi & computers/cell phones, privacy, adapting to telehealth

**SAMHSA information –** David Dickinson, SAMSHA Regional Admin for Region 10

* See slides

**Patient & staff care –** Charissa Fontinos

* There is PPE available, continue to request thru local health jurisdiction
* As restrictions loosen, seeing increase in cases. Particularly Yakima with harvest time, and in Spokane
* Improved guidance coming out around infection control for memory care/elder care facilities

**Q&A**

* Aware of letter to CMS that telehealth relaxations/regulations be extended for a year beyond covid crisis? Any idea if this will happen?
  + Number of groups have submitted similar and been tracking regulations
* How long will telehealth rates be at parity to in-person
  + That will continue, bc it is the agency’s policy period
  + As we move twd new environment will be designed to support access. Have to be in compliance with any changes/regulations at the federal level.
* SAMHSA have any resources to mitigate access to broadband issues?
  + Aware of and will be a priority
  + HCA has been working on this issue as well
  + Dept of Commerce site about the WiFi hotspots across the state: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/building-infrastructure/washington-state-drive-in-wifi-hotspots-location-finder/>
* Timeline for codes related to telehealth & locations to change back?
  + No changes at this time. Keep things moving as currently doing, still in state of emergency. Any changes will be communicated in advance & developed with providers.
* Are there resources for providers and clients around trauma responses to seeing/wearing masks? Providers seeing clients getting triggered by being asked to wear them (claustrophobic feeling, feeling that their voice is being closed down, etc) or that seeing others in masks is triggering (people are trying to hide things/feelings/ their agenda from me/etc).
  + Diana Cockrell – leading trauma approach for DBHR. Don’t have resources off hand, but will follow-up
* The following online courses on trauma-informed approach (TIA) are available in English and Spanish: TIA overview for everyone TIA for agency leaders TIA for staff TIA for supervisors Register for TIA trainings. You will receive a welcome invitation from TIA Washington to access the courses. <http://tiawashington.com/register-for-bridge/>
* Contract tracing & HIPAA – any guidance forthcoming?
  + Tracers are trained in privacy requirements per public health law
  + Tracer would not identify agency affiliation of client to contacts they communicate with