

Integrated Clinics for High Utilizers Conference

California Health Care Foundation

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LA Care is working on several models of care focused on integrated physical health and behavioral health; below are three examples.

Bidirectional Co-located Care

Since 2010, the Orange County Behavioral Health Department has used the funding from the Mental Health Services Act to implement a bidirectional co-located model of care:

1. In county mental health clinics, a team of PCP, RN and trained peer medical care coordinator provides primary care on-site and coordinates with specialists.
2. In community clinics, a team of psychiatrist, therapists (LCSW/MFT) and trained peer mental health specialist provides mental health services and substance use treatment on-site.

Integrated Care

Since 2007, the Orange County Public Health HIV clinic hired on a psychiatrist to provide direct care and case consultation to primary care/HIV docs and case managers/therapists. The psychiatrist provides care on-site, often seeing the patients together with the other clinicians and case managers. The mental health evaluation and progress notes are completely integrated into the medical chart.

System-Level Integration

L.A. Care is collaborating with our Department of Mental Health (DMH) to align primary care providers, substance use providers, and health plan mental health providers with a specific Department of Mental Health (DMH) specialty mental health clinic. Our goal is to re-assign all of our members receiving care at the individual DMH clinic to the specific primary care provider. We will also attempt to engage that DMH clinic to provide health plan mental health level of care, thus creating a comprehensive system of care that doesn't require financial integration. Currently, the funding for each entity exists in silos.