



## Brattleboro Retreat CHNA Implementation Update

(June 1, 2018)

For CHNA-related activities from June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018

- **Community Need #1—Enhance Care Coordination activities between medical and mental health providers:**
  - Continued to staff an office of mental health professionals within the main facility of Blue Cross Blue Shield Vermont (BCBSVT) in Barre, VT. The individuals who staff this office (called Vermont Collaborative Care or VCC) help BCBSVT subscribers integrate mental health care and medical health care.
  - Continued to provide collaborative office rounds with area pediatric and family practices to facilitate problem solving on psychiatric and addiction cases.
  - Established tele-psychiatry services in collaboration with Brattleboro Memorial Hospital's emergency department (ED) to facilitate real time consultations between Retreat psychiatrists and ED physicians concerning patients with acute psychiatric complaints.
  - Added a Referral Resource page to the Retreat's newly-designed website.
  
- **Community Need #2—Increase accessibility to Retreat programs and services to historically under-served populations:**
  - Offered one continuing education workshop focused on culturally diverse patient populations: on 10/20/2017, entitled "Unmasking Racial Trauma and Strengthening Relational Bonds in Black Families," with speaker Christiana Awosan, Ph.D.
  - Continued to provide on-site clinical services at Groundworks Collaborative, Brattleboro's temporary shelter for homeless men, women, and children. This is a service that began in 2015.
  - Further refined and expanded the scope of the hospital's cultural competency online training module and assigned it to all newly-hired staff during orientation and annually for all Retreat staff.
  - Opened The Welcoming Place, an on-campus, short-term childcare service for clients who are receiving treatment for opioid addiction through the Retreat's HUB clinic.
  
- **Community Need #3—Increase Educational Initiatives/Offerings for both providers and the general public to increase understanding of and treatment for mental illness and addiction:**
  - Continued to support our *Stand Up to Stigma* community awareness campaign through community events, advertising, website, promotional items, etc.
  - Offered four (4) free, one-hour continuing education luncheons for mental health professionals in February 2018.

- Offered 12 all-day continuing education workshops in the fall of 2017 and 12 all-day continuing education workshops in the spring of 2018 for a total of 24 for the conference season.
- Offered one free community workshop on the evening of Jan. 3, 2018 led by Paul Rodrigue, LMFT, on the topic “Realizing Self Compassion.”
- Continued hosting and participating in a Consumer Advocacy Group that meets on a monthly basis with Retreat clinicians and administrators. Goal is to ensure that Retreat programs and services are meeting the needs of consumers and are being delivered in ways that accommodate the perspectives and experiences of patients.
- Produced three (3) new “Keep Talking” video Broadcasts on Brattleboro Community Television between fall 2017 and spring 2018:
  - “Understanding and Treating Compulsive Hoarding Disorder”
  - “No One Cares About Crazy People: An Interview with Author Ron Powers”
  - “Autism Spectrum Disorder”
- Published nine (9) Op-Eds and/or educational pieces in local and regional newspapers:
  - “Scapegoating Mental Illness is Wrong Approach to Ending Mass Shootings,” by Louis Josephson, Ph.D., *The Commons*, March 7, 2018; *Brattleboro Reformer* March 8, 2018
  - “Abolishing IMD Exclusion Will Put Teeth in the War on Opioid Addiction,” by Louis Josephson, Ph.D., *Brattleboro Reformer*, November 9, 2017
  - “Las Vegas Tragedy: Stress Responses in a Time of National Trauma,” by Kirk Woodring, LICSW, *Brattleboro Reformer*, October 3, 2017
  - “Stepping Forward with Courage: Thoughts on Ending Stigma During Mental Health Awareness Week,” by Jilisa Snyder, Ph.D., *Brattleboro Reformer*, October 2, 2018
  - “The One Word That Can Help End an Epidemic,” by Kirk Woodring, LICSW, *Keene Sentinel*, *Vermont Business Magazine*, and *Caledonian Record*, September, 2017
  - “Childcare: A Critical Support for People Recovering from Opioid Addiction,” by Louis Josephson, Ph.D., *Brattleboro Reformer*, *VT Digger*, *Caledonian Record*, *Vermont Business Magazine*, August, 2017
  - “Mapping Brattleboro Retreat’s Future,” by Louis Josephson, Ph.D., *VT Digger*, *Vermont Business Magazine*, August, 2017
  - “Repealing ACA Will Trigger healthcare Emergency,” by Louis Josephson, Ph.D., *VT Digger*, July 25, 2017
  - “Making Difficult Ethical Decisions,” by Jilisa Snyder, Ph.D., *Brattleboro Reformer*, June 30, 2017.