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Training Announcements

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), Office of Human Resources and Learning, is currently offering virtual trainings. Listed below are those currently scheduled. For more information regarding trainings, [click here](#).



- **HRST: One Day Training for Clinical Reviewers**
- **HRST: One Day Training for Intensive/ Support Coordinators, State Service Coordinators, and Intensive SC Clinical Supervisors**
- **I/DD Participant Direction New Enrollment Webinar**

If you have any questions, please contact DBHDDLearning@dbhdd.ga.gov.

I/DD Statewide Provider Meeting

February 9, 2023
9:00 am - 12:30 pm

The DBHDD Division of Developmental Disabilities will be hosting an Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Statewide Provider meeting. This meeting will be conducted remotely via our WebEx platform.

[Click here to register.](#)

IMPORTANT NOTE: All I/DD Provider Agencies are required to have a representative in attendance at the I/DD Statewide Provider Meetings.



I/DD Provider Training Opportunities

The Georgia Collaborative ASO and DBHDD present the following training opportunities for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Providers. Please click on the title of each training to register.

Supported Employment - Webinar **Tuesday, January 10, 2023, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm**

This training webinar will provide helpful information on how providers can introduce individuals to employment and identify their interest in working in the community. In addition, the training will discuss how to address common misconceptions, and what supports, and services are available to support individuals with employment.

How to Offer Competency Based Training - Webinar **Tuesday, January 24, 2023, 9:30 am - 10:30 am**

Participants will learn the benefits of utilizing competency-based training and examples of the various ways to conduct and document training will be shared. Participants will also learn how to assure staff retain knowledge and skills. Techniques to document, analyze, and track staff training will be reviewed to support provider efforts to meet DBHDD regulatory requirements for staff training.

Putting Person Centered Practices Training - Webinar **Tuesday, January 24, 2023, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm**

Participants will learn how to respectfully coach individuals to engage and participate independently in developing social roles in their communities. Examples on how to help individuals build social capital will be shared.

Learning About the Individual's Preferences - Webinar **Wednesday, January 25, 2023, 10:00 am - 11:00 am**

Identifying preferences and wishes are basic to person-centered planning and supports. So, how do we learn what matters most to an individual? This webinar will share examples and interview techniques useful in discovering this critical information. Participants will receive tips on how to gather information from an individual who does not use words to communicate using of Person-Centered Thinking Tools. A formal Leisure Interest Survey will be shared, and participants will learn how to conduct the survey and how to use the information learned effectively.

Please note these trainings are targeted for I/DD providers, Support Coordination, Direct Support Professionals and Planning List Administrators.

For any questions or registration issues, please contact GaCollaborativePR@beaconhealthoptions.com.

Featured Article

I/DD Ad Hoc Provider Meeting

& Rate Study Comment Period Extension

reminder

As communicated in previous Special Bulletins and I/DD All State Provider Meetings, the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) is in the process of reviewing payment rates and policies for services provided through the New Options and Comprehensive Supports Waivers. Burns & Associates, a division of Health Management Associates (HMA-Burns), has been contracted to assist with this rate study and has developed initial recommendations.

Interested stakeholders are encouraged to review the materials posted to the Burns and Associates website at www.burnshealthpolicy.com/GeorgiaWaiverRates/, including a recorded webinar that explains the recommendations.

In addition, Burns and Associates in collaboration with DBHDD, will be hosting a Provider Meeting on **January 6, 2023, from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm** to review the draft rate tables. **Registration for the Provider Meeting is available by [clicking here](#).**

Please note, these recommendations are not final. DBHDD and HMA-Burns want to hear from community stakeholders before finalizing the proposals. Individuals may submit written comments directly to dbarber@healthmanagement.com. **The public comment period has been extended to Friday, January 20, 2023.**

Commenters are encouraged to be as specific as possible and may submit any other documentation that they believe should be considered. All comments and submitted materials will be considered before the recommendations are finalized. Your public comment contributions are valued as an essential part of the rate development process. For any questions concerning the rate study please contact ashleigh.caseman@dbhdd.ga.gov.

To review the DBHDD announcement of the NOW and COMP rate study visit the DBHDD website by [clicking here](#).

For any registration questions concerning the I/DD Ad Hoc Provider Meeting, please contact DBHDDLearning@dbhdd.ga.gov

DBHDD Policy Information

Since December 1, 2022, DBHDD updated or developed the following policies:

[Provider Manual for Community Behavioral Health Providers, 01-112](#)

[Provider Manuals for Community Developmental Disability Providers, 02-1201](#)

As a reminder, all current policies can be found on [PolicyStat](#).

Please direct all policy-related questions to the Office of Provider Relations via the Provider Issue Management System (PIMS). To submit your questions, [click here](#).

Office of Disaster Mental Health Services

Happy New Year! We are so excited to start another year off with you all and hope this serves as a fresh start for emergency preparedness. We want to start off with a reminder of DBHDD policy when it comes to

disasters.

- All DBHDD providers are responsible for having and developing their own Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) in the event of a disaster. COOP plans are vital in assuring the capability exists to continue essential agency functions across a wide range of potential emergencies and/or disasters.
- Providers are responsible for designating personnel from their agency which drafts the plan.
 - One staff member is designated to take DBHDD's Providers' Disaster Preparedness, Response and Disaster Recovery Training within 45 days after assuming the responsibility.
 - If the designated staff member leaves the agency, another designee is selected from the agency and is required to complete the training. For more information and help with constructing your plan, please contact Kalie Burke(kalie.burke@dbhdd.ga.gov).



[Link to more information](#)

New Year, New Start!

A new year is a great opportunity to start new healthy habits and set yourself up for success throughout the year. I included some resolutions to consider and smaller goals that fall under each. Breaking down your big ideas into smaller tasks/activities can make changes a little less daunting.

New Year's Resolution 1: Be better prepared for disaster

Goal	Action Item
Establish a family plan for your household	Make a Plan with Ready.gov and be sure everyone in the household is aware.
Know what needs to be included in an emergency kit	Reference Ready.gov and remember to account for specific needs with family members (pets, babies, seniors).
Be ready in any situation	Pack a small emergency kit in your car which includes supplies for a quick evacuation

New Year's Resolution 2: Be more connected in the community

Goal	Action Item
Know your local emergency resources	Post local emergency numbers in an accessible place in your home (like the fridge!) Printable form by county Coastal Resources/ Phone Numbers

Make sure you know evacuation routes	Utilize GDOT or county websites to familiarize yourself with routes (especially if you live on the coast).
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New Year's Resolution 3: Take care of yourself

Goal	Action Item
Lead a more active lifestyle	Start slow, 5-10 minute sessions at a time are a great start. Take a short dance break, walk a lap around the parking lot at lunch, or take your dog or kids for a walk after you get home! Keep it fun, cheap, and don't complicate it!
Have a more positive mental health outlook	Disasters and emergencies will impact your mental health. Please reach out for help before it gets worse. Start building your toolkit of ways you can help yourself cope and manage during a disaster.

Tools & Resources:

[2021-2022 GDOT Official State Highway & Transportation Map](#)

[Emergency Phone Numbers for coastal counties](#) (Savannah Morning News)

Resources for Providers

[DBHDD PolicyStat](#)

If you have any questions, please contact the DBHDD Office of Disaster Mental Health Services at kalie.burke@dbhdd.ga.gov or 404-416-2829.

Office of Provider Relations & ASO Coordination

JUST A REMINDER... Question for your Provider Relations Team?

The **Provider Issues Management System (PIMS)** is your online source to have your questions answered in a consistent, reliable and timely way! In addition to providing a timely response, the information we gather from PIMS will assist DBHDD in trending common concerns, developing FAQs, and informing policy reviews. You can access the PIMS site directly by using the link below.

[PROVIDER ISSUES MANAGEMENT SYSTEM](#)

PIMS is also accessible through the [DBHDD website](#) by hovering over

the "**For Provider**" tab located across the top of the page. When the drop-down menu appears, click on "**Questions for your Provider Relations Team**".

Director
Anna Bourque

Senior Provider Relations Managers
Carole Crowley
Sharon Pyles

For Provider Relations inquiries,
please contact us at
DBHDD.Provider@dbhdd.ga.gov.



BE WELL



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