

# Meeting Minutes -



**Arkansas**  
Behavioral Health  
Integration Network

**Location:** Zoom

**Date:** May 10, 2024

**Meeting:** AR CoCM Community Stakeholders Meeting

**Time:** 12:00-1:00

## Attendance

- |                    |                 |                     |                     |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Kim Shuler      | 5. Miste Trent  | 9. Susan Ward-Jones | 13. Mark Jansen     |
| 2. Patti Gibson    | 6. Tisha Deen   | 10. Brea Strong     | 14. Amanda Lunsford |
| 3. Caitlyn Johnson | 7. Julie Carman | 11. Nicole Portrude | 15. Virna Little    |
| 4. Tisha Deen      | 8. Michael Keck | 12. Teresa Hudson   | 16. Jeremy Stark    |

## Agenda Items

1. Welcome/Updates/Announcements
2. SAMHSA BHI-Hub Executive Committee Meeting Report CoCM Grant Review
3. CoCM update from DHS
4. UAMS Update
5. CoCM Metrics
6. Upcoming Events

## Summary:

### **UAMS**

- UAMS invited psychiatrist, Dr. Jeff Pyne to the grant's Executive Committee meeting that meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 11:00 to discuss how the collaborative care model is different from other models of integrated care. May's meeting will also cover the needs assessment that UAMS has been conducting.
- UAMS shared a couple of upcoming events they will be hosting including a statewide schizophrenia conference (see below under Important Dates) as well as the Addiction Treatment Advisory Board making an appearance to promote and educate business leaders on Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, there will possibly be a virtual meeting taking place in June about technical assistance for a 'turnkey approach'. More info on the last two events coming soon.
- They also announced that they were interviewing two Behavioral Health Care Managers and looking to hire them both very soon.

### **Perinatal Program and Reimbursement Rates**

- Virna mentioned that an article (see link under resources) has been published showing the reduction of anxiety symptoms among women within a collaborative care model. The team started discussing the perinatal program in Michigan and highlighted the work of Virna, who provided useful information about the program.
  - The significance of the reimbursement rates was emphasized, suggesting that they should be at least 30% above Medicare rates. There's a problem with commercial plans in North Carolina, where rates were below Medicare, causing issues for smaller practices.
  - Kim proposed that commercial plans in Arkansas should also match Medicaid rates and urged the team to attend the legislative work group for Mental Health in Arkansas, which was set to

reconvene in May. It was suggested to send the brief out to legislators to raise awareness about the program.

### **Collaborative Care Registries Progress & Development**

- The team recognizes that the value of registries and their potential to aid in research and patient care cannot be emphasized enough.
  - May's CFHA's monthly SIG meeting hosted a webinar showcasing the progress of various collaborative care registries from four different organizations using four different registries, including those developed by Akello, the AIMS Center, Mira, and Hartford Health. They highlighted the unique features of each registry. There is also potential for team members to build their own registry using Epic, which UAMS is currently doing.
  - ABHIN developed a list they shared with Boston Mountain (and will be uploaded to the ABHIN website soon) that helps identify essential components that is necessary when developing or looking for a successful registry.

### **Updates and Resources**

- ABHIN developed a readiness assessment tool and provided it to the two FQHC's involved in the project, Eastern Arkansas Family Health Center (EAFMC) and Boston Mountain Rural Health Centers (BMRHC) to be completed prior to the first of what will be three, half-day training sessions. Vigna will lead all three sessions which will take place on May 14<sup>th</sup>, June 18<sup>th</sup>, and July 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - ABHIN is in the process of scheduling the virtual bi-monthly coaching calls with the FQHC's as well as the monthly office hours, both of which will begin the first week of June.
- Dr. Gibson discussed the new payment policy introduced by AR Blue Cross Blue Shield that is specifically designed for behavioral health integration and covers CoCM Codes (see policy link under resources. Clarification was made over the concerns about 90984's code reimbursement stating that the policy did not introduce any changes.
- The Bowman Family Foundation brief (please see link under resources) describes the urgent need to address mental health and substance use issues in the country and highlights the potential of the collaborative care model to extend resources and improve access for patients, emphasizing its evidence-based success and significant cost savings.

### **Important Date(s):**

- ▶ **Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 12:00** – [Overdose Safety Planning for Primary Care Providers](#)
- ▶ **Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 12:15** – ABHIN Webinar: [Addressing Behavioral Health Needs through Social Determinant of Health Strategies](#)
- ▶ **Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**, Arkansas Psychiatric Society 2024 Annual Conference, [Untangling the Web of Addictions: CoCM and Substance Use Disorders](#)
- ▶ **Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1:00** – [CFHA Monthly SIG meeting](#), 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 1:00
- ▶ **Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>**, Seattle, WA – AIMS 3rd Annual Integrated Care Conference, [Integrated Care Conference 2024: Cultivating Integrated Care within the Behavioral Health Ecosystem](#)
- ▶ **August 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>**, Washington D.C – ACU 2024 Conference: [Envisioning a More Equitable Future: Advancing Stakeholder-Centered Innovation](#)
- ▶ **Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>** – UAMS Statewide Schizophrenia Conference

### **CoCM Resources:**

- ▶ [ABHIN CoCM Training & Resource webpage](#)
- ▶ [AIMS Center](#)
- ▶ [BCBS Updated CoCM Payment Policy & Billing Codes](#)

- ▶ [Primary Health Care Research & Development – Reduction of Anxiety Symptoms within CoCM Article](#)
- ▶ [ABHIN Webinar: Collaborative Care Management in Perinatal Settings](#)
- ▶ [Mounting Evidence That Use of the Collaborative Care Model Reduces Total Healthcare Costs](#)
- ▶ ABHIN *While You Wait* Podcast now streaming:

- [Amazon](#)
- [Spotify](#)
- [YouTube](#)

