

Best Practice: Behavioral Health

Huron Valley Physicians Association

"Behavioral Health Integration for the Independent Providers"

After requests from providers to fill a need for more availability of behavioral health interventions and knowledge, HVPA developed an adaptation of the AIMS collaborative care model in order to support their independent offices with psychiatric resources. These resources include contracting with local hospital systems to lease psychiatrist time, contracting with community psychiatrist to lease time, and Behavioral Health Care Managers placed into offices to provide brief intervention or clinical evaluation of patients to better meet the mental health needs of patients in the primary care setting.

The pilot office of the behavioral health initiative saw a reduction in PHQ-9 and GAD-7 scores. As the initiative has grown they have also seen a significant increase in patients being willing to try psychiatric medications, follow through with psychiatric medication or be compliant with recommendations for behavioral health interventions in the community.

Receiving this award will allow Huron Valley Physicians Association to financially support behavioral health care management time as well as contracted psychiatrist hours in order to continue their behavioral health collaborative at no cost to patients in their network.

