



Dear DBHIDS Team,

Today is International Women's Day, celebrated in many countries around the world. As defined by the United Nations, it is a day when women are recognized for their achievements without regard to divisions, whether national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political. Let us take a moment to reflect and recognize the significant and immeasurable contributions women make daily to the department, the city, the nation, and the world.



Over the past week, I hope you've had the opportunity to learn more about Mayor Kenney's proposed budget for the 2018 Fiscal Year (FY18). The Mayor's proposed [FY18 budget](#) for the City of Philadelphia, released March 2, 2017, includes significant enhancements to several departments in which DBHIDS has close partnerships. There are proposed funding increases for rental subsidies and supportive housing to assist families experiencing homelessness and people with substance use disorder and mental-health challenges. Additionally, in an effort to combat the city's opioid and heroin epidemic, Mayor Kenney has also proposed devoting \$1.9 million to an education campaign, a database to track treatment facilities, and distribution of Naloxone (Narcan) - an opioid overdose reversal medication.

Mayor Kenney also highlighted DBHIDS' [Network of Neighbors Responding to Violence](#) during his address. In 2016, DBHIDS launched an anti-violence initiative to support individuals experiencing trauma after violent incidents. This community-based program uses pre-existing social relationships in neighborhoods to foster healthy coping and prevent retaliatory violence whenever possible. The Network aims to mitigate many of the harmful symptoms and behaviors that result from exposure to trauma and violence. Over the next year, the Mayor's office will continue to support the Network of Neighbors Responding to Violence initiative alongside other violence prevention strategies in Philadelphia.

Again, I would like to thank each of you for your tremendous efforts and unwavering commitment to DBHIDS and for improving the lives of people in Philadelphia. Your

support, expertise, and leadership continue to guide us as we navigate through legislative uncertainties. Continue reading correspondence received from the executive office and the DBHIDS Communications team to remain informed.

### **Provider Update**

**Expanded Availability of Medication-Assisted Treatment:** Preceding the development of the Mayor's Task Force to Combat the Opioid Epidemic in Philadelphia, DBHIDS and our provider network have been hard at work developing the best menu of treatment resources for individuals with opiate use disorders. Within the past two years, we have strategically engaged Drug and Alcohol treatment providers at each level of care within the service continuum to ensure that the option of newer types of medication-assisted treatment, specifically Buprenorphine (Suboxone) and Vivitrol, are accessible and accommodated no matter where an individual finds themselves within the treatment system.

This effort has centered on working directly with providers of both residential programming (including halfway houses) as well as outpatient and intensive outpatient providers, so that their menu of services includes the offering of medication-assisted treatment (or at least allows residents who are on medication-assisted treatment to participate in their program). As a result, there are now hundreds of individuals within the broader outpatient service system accessing the medication resources of Buprenorphine and Vivitrol as a way to interrupt the hold of opiate addiction and truly engage in a recovery path. This complements the fourteen treatment locations that also offer traditional Methadone as a key tool of opiate recovery, and ensures that every evidence-based approach to conquering opiate dependence is widely available within Philadelphia. For additional information, contact [Andrew Devos](#), [Marvin Levine](#), or [Dr. Catherine Williams](#). Additionally [Dr. Rose Julius](#), Associate Medical Director at CBH, specializes in Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment and is a wonderful resource.

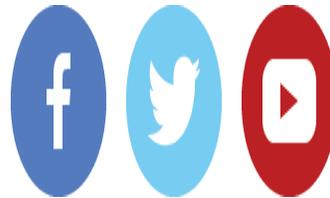
### **General Updates**

- March is Intellectual disAbilities month. The “Fashion for All- Fashion Show” was held on March 2, 2017 and was a great success! Let’s continue supporting IDS’ planned activities throughout the month.
  - [3/9 Life Sharing Lunch and Learn](#)
  - [3/16 Communication Champions Meeting](#)
  - [3/31 Brighter Futures Awards](#)
- Need Microsoft Office training? Training offered by PMHCC is available to all PMHCC, CTT, DBHIDS, CBH, DHS, DPH, OSH, CST and BHTEN Employees. [Click here](#) for more information.
- Interested in learning about population health or have an idea to share? Register for DBHIDS’ Population Health Roundtables:
  - [3/28 Sandy Vasko, Director, Office of Behavioral Health](#)
  - [4/4 Dr. Kamilah Jackson, Deputy Chief Medical Officer](#)
  - [4/11 Jeffrey Orlin, Administrative Services Director](#)
- Take a behavioral health screening or learn about Mental Health First Aid at [HealthyMindsPhilly.org](#)

David T. Jones  
Acting Commissioner  
Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services

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City of Philadelphia



DEPARTMENT of BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
and INTELLECTUAL disABILITY SERVICES

For DBHIDS resources visit: [bit.ly/DBHIDSResources](https://bit.ly/DBHIDSResources)  
Did you know? [DBHIDS Team Highlights Archive](#)