



Dear DBHIDS Family:

This has been an eventful summer for DBHIDS! Your extraordinary efforts over the last several months are admirable and I am extremely fortunate to work alongside some of the most dedicated and talented staff the City of Philadelphia has to offer.

As we move the population health framework forward, implementation of the process will manifest in internal and external cross-system initiatives that are at various points of operations across the continuum. As you well know, the work is both complicated and complex. For these reasons we will continue to rely on your collaborative spirits to develop solutions for some of Philadelphia's most complex challenges, and I am proud to serve with you. As members of the DBHIDS family, Philadelphians continue to look to you for help, so it is imperative that you remain engaged and monitor correspondence from the DBHIDS Communications team and our system leaders. This is the best way to ensure you receive important information in a timely manner. To that end, there are several important updates I would like to share with you.

Brunch with the Commissioner

One of my first priorities as the new DBHIDS Commissioner was visiting each office for "*Brunch with the Commissioner.*" These events were an opportunity to

meet with me, hear more about the vision for DBHIDS, and share your thoughts about our future. To date, we've been at three locations and have two more stops – at our Intellectual disAbility Services office (701 Market Street, 5th Floor) tomorrow, Aug. 24, between 11 a.m. and 12 p.m., and next Thursday, Aug. 31, at 520 N. Delaware Ave. This last event will take place from 9 to 10 a.m. For more information or for questions contact [Nicole Connell](#).

Combating the Opioid Epidemic

In partnership with a host of city stakeholders, DBHIDS is working in concert with the Managing Director's Office to execute the ongoing cleanup of the Conrail railroad tracks along Gurney Street in the Kensington/Fairhill community. DBHIDS, in partnership with the Office of Homeless Services, is coordinating outreach teams to engage individuals in need of treatment and other vital social services. Assertive outreach efforts began as early as May 2017, and will continue throughout the fall. We have worked with the provider network and other stakeholders in the community to increase Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), reserved inpatient treatment slots, deployed clinical teams to the area, increased recovery house capacity, and added additional Housing First treatment slots to serve the chronically homeless with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). These are just some of the many ways in which our system is working aggressively to support the City of Philadelphia with combating the overdose epidemic. [Please take a moment to read my latest blog on how we're addressing the opioid epidemic.](#) For additional information on our efforts contact [Andrea Brooks](#) or [Ricardo Tull](#).

Einstein Crisis Response Center for Children (CRC) Closure

On Sept. 5, 2017, Einstein Crisis Response Center (CRC), Philadelphia's only designated CRC for children and adolescents, will no longer provide emergency behavioral health evaluations to children under 18. The Department has planned for this transition and developed an interim solution until a new CRC with Belmont Behavioral Hospital/The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) is fully

operational later this year. Our goal is to ensure our children and their families receive timely, effective treatment during this critical transition. Community Behavioral Health (CBH) has taken the lead and advised our provider community that there are various ways in which a child experiencing a psychiatric crisis can receive an emergency behavioral health support. Please review the [CRC Interim Plan](#) for additional details.

This week, we provided additional information during an in-person meeting with Child ER providers. CBH also issued a Provider Notice earlier this month outlining the full range of supportive crisis interventions services that will be offered during this transition. Additional stakeholders will also be informed of the plan (e.g., Police, Fire, School District of Philadelphia, etc.). Additional information will be provided as necessary. Please direct all questions related to this matter to [Sabrina Nansteel-Bunt](#).

Philadelphia Crisis Response Center on the move

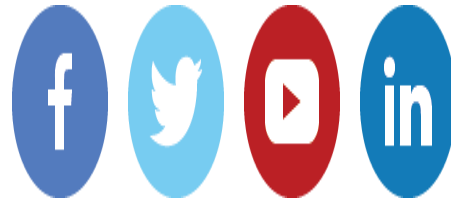
On Aug, 15, the Acute Services Unit, previously located at 123 S. Broad Street, joined CBH Member Services and CBH Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES) at 801 Market Street. All three units are tri-located on the 10th Floor. Collectively, these teams form the Philadelphia Crisis Response Center (PCR), which is designed to provide comprehensive emergency assistance to Philadelphians on a 24/7 basis. Thank you to the teams at CBH and PMHCC who worked diligently to facilitate the move. I would also like to acknowledge the staff impacted by the move for your remarkable display of patience and flexibility. The Philadelphia Crisis Response Center will promote greater collaboration and integration amongst DBHIDS' crisis response teams. Additionally, the CBH Human Resources team has also relocated to the 10th Floor at 801 Market Street. If you have any additional questions please contact [Peter Bezrucik](#).

As we continue through the fall, I will routinely send monthly messages to share

updates, reflections, and essential information. DBHIDS Communications will send email updates more frequently, so please be sure to stay engaged as we work together to improve the lives of all Philadelphians.

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

City of Philadelphia



 DBHIDS

DEPARTMENT of BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
and INTELLECTUAL disABILITY SERVICES

Need help planning and promoting an event/awareness day? [Start Here](#).

Take a behavioral health screening, register for Mental Health First Aid training or invite DBHIDS to a community event at HealthyMindsPhilly.org.

For DBHIDS resources visit bit.ly/DBHIDSResources.

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