



Behavioral Health is Essential To Health



Prevention Works



Treatment is Effective



People Recover



Welcome to What's Happening in 2011?: Implementing the Affordable Care Act

The webinar will begin at 1:00 p.m. EST
Thank you for your patience



Can't hear the presentation?

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Legal Action Center (1-202-544-5478)

WELCOME to the Parity, Healthcare Reform and Beyond Webinar Series

Today's presenters are:

- Dan Belnap and Gabrielle de la Gueronniere of the Legal Action Center

WELCOME to the Parity, Healthcare Reform and Beyond Webinar Series! (cont.)

Funded by:



“Partners for Recovery” is an initiative of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

WELCOME to the Parity, Healthcare Reform and Beyond Webinar Series! (cont.)

Have a question during this presentation?

- Use the chat feature on your screen.
- Will answer some questions at end, and will try to answer others on website.

This training is about . . .

- The Affordable Care Act (ACA)
- Focuses on the provisions of the ACA that have gone into effect and those that will become effective in 2011
- Highlights the major next steps for implementation

Today's Materials

- This **PowerPoint presentation**

http://www.lac.org/index.php/lac/national_healthcare_reform

Who is today's audience?

This training is for . . .

- State and local government officials
- Addiction and mental health treatment and prevention providers
- People seeking or in recovery from addiction to alcohol or other drugs, family members, friends, and allies of people with addiction histories
- Employers, health care providers, and others interested in learning about the ACA
- Others interested in the topic.

Today's training objectives

1. Understand the major provisions of the Federal health care reform law, the Affordable Care Act (ACA), that are in effect and are about to become effective.
2. Be able to help educate others about the benefits and protections provided by the law and upcoming opportunities for the field.
3. Learn about anticipated next steps related to implementation of the ACA.

What We'll Discuss Today

- Some background on the ACA
- Key provisions with 2011 implementation dates and what they mean
 - Medicare and Medicaid
 - Prevention and wellness
 - Quality improvement
 - Insurance reforms
- Next steps

Background on the ACA

- The ACA was signed into law on March 23, 2010
- Some provisions took effect immediately
- Some took effect later in 2010
- Other provisions will take effect between 2011 and 2013
- The majority of the most significant provisions take effect in 2014
- Full implementation of the law expected by 2019

ACA Provisions Already in Effect

- States may now expand Medicaid to low-income childless adults through State plan
 - Implications for people with SUD and MH treatment needs
- Young adults can remain on parent's insurance up to age 26
- Discounted prescription drug coverage in Medicare
- No cost-sharing for some preventive care in Medicare and private insurance
 - Includes coverage of some MH and SU services

ACA Provisions Already in Effect

(cont'd)

- Certain consumer protections in insurance
 - Eliminates lifetime limits
 - Prohibits coverage rescissions
 - Prohibits preexisting condition exclusions for children
 - Protections of particular interest for people with SU and/or MH disorders
- National high-risk pool created
- Workforce investments
- Prevention and Public Health Fund established
 - Funding to SAMHSA for wellness promotion/chronic disease prevention

Key Medicaid & Medicare provisions that take effect in 2011

- Medicaid health home option for beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions
 - State flexibility in design, but strong MH/SUD requirements
 - States must consult with SAMHSA on addressing MH/SUD needs of enrollees
 - States receive 90% Federal funding for 2 years for eligible health home services

Key Medicaid & Medicare provisions that take effect in 2011 (*cont'd*)

- Community First Choice Option
 - Optional Medicaid benefit to provide community-based attendant services and supports to certain people with disabilities
 - Provides enhanced matching rate (+6 percentage points) for services in program
- State Balancing Incentive Program
 - Provides qualifying States with enhanced Federal match for Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS)

Key Medicaid & Medicare provisions that take effect in 2011 (*cont'd*)

- Development of health care quality measures specific to Medicaid eligible adults
 - Initial core set includes several MH and SUD measures
- Created the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation at CMS
 - To test new payment and delivery system models that improve quality and reduce cost

Key prevention & wellness provisions that take effect in 2011

- Eliminate cost-sharing for certain Medicare covered preventive services
 - Includes SBIRT for alcohol misuse
 - Includes mental health screenings
 - Provide Medicare beneficiaries access to comprehensive health risk assessment without cost-sharing

Key prevention & wellness provisions that take effect in 2011 (cont'd)

- National Prevention, Health Promotion and Public Health Council to develop strategies to improve nation's health
 - Membership includes Director of ONDCP
- Continued funding through the Prevention and Public Health Fund
 - Priorities established by SAMHSA

Key prevention & wellness provisions that take effect in 2011 (*cont'd*)

- Incentives for Prevention of Chronic Diseases in Medicaid
 - For States to provide incentives for Medicaid beneficiaries that participate in health promotion programs and/or adopt healthy behaviors
- Provides grants for up to 5 years for small businesses to establish workplace wellness programs

Key quality improvement provisions that take effect in 2011

- Establishes National Quality Strategy
 - To improve delivery of healthcare services, health outcomes, and public health
- Creates Community-Based Collaborative Care Network Program
 - To facilitate coordination and integration of care for low-income uninsured and underinsured populations

Key insurance reform provisions that take effect in 2011

- Medical Loss Ratio requirements
 - Health plans must report share of premium dollars spent on medical care and provide rebates to consumers in some cases
- Uniformity of coverage documents and standardized definitions
 - HHS developing standards for summaries and benefits information for health insurers to inform beneficiaries of coverage

Looking Forward to 2014

- The biggest health system changes happen in 2014
 - Health Insurance Exchanges
 - Medicaid expansion
 - Insurance reforms and other consumer protections
- Preparation for these changes is well underway in 2011
 - Federal and State level implementation
 - Benefit design

What you can do

- Develop a work plan that mirrors ACA timeline
- Become familiar with key ACA provisions
 - Exchanges
 - Medicaid/Benchmark plans
 - Essential benefits
 - Parity
- Pay attention to what is happening on Federal level, and look for opportunities to be heard at the State and local levels
 - Comments
 - Meetings
 - Implementation panels

Resources

- <http://thomas.loc.gov>, the Library of Congress website on legislative information
 - Text of the Affordable Care Act
 - Legislative history including committee reports, prior versions of the legislation, and member statements and votes in support of or in opposition to the Act

More Resources

- SAMHSA
 - www.samhsa.gov/healthreform
 - *Description of a Good and Modern Addictions and Mental Health Service System*
- Department of Health and Human Services
 - <http://www.healthcare.gov/>

More Resources

- National Association of Insurance Commissioners' website with contact information for each of the state commissioners:
 - http://www.naic.org/state_web_map.htm
- Kaiser Family Foundation Health Reform Summary:
<http://www.kff.org/healthreform/8061.cfm>

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Legal Action Center

- www.lac.org
- dbelnap@lac.org and gdelagueronniere@lac-dc.org
- 202-544-5478 with any questions

http://www.lac.org/index.php/lac/national_healthcare_reform

Now for your questions...

How to View the Webinar & Answers To Questions

Answers to questions, a recording of the webinar and the Power Point slides will be posted at:

http://www.lac.org/index.php/lac/national_healthcare_reform