



Center for Mental Health
Services Research

Brown School



Washington
University in St. Louis

BROWN SCHOOL

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to share this current CMHSR Bulletin, which is the last one for this year. Below are several upcoming virtual workshops and conferences, behavioral health-focused publications, and the latest publications from our center. Our next Bulletin will be distributed in February, 2021.

Take care,

Leopoldo J. Cabassa and Byron J. Powell
Co-Directors, Center for Mental Health Services Research
Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis

Please follow us on social media: [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

CMHSR News

Presentations

[Psychiatric Services Podcast: From Pages to Practice. Episode 40: January 21, 2021: A peer-led healthy lifestyle intervention for people with serious mental illness in supportive housing](#)

Leopoldo J. Cabassa, Ph.D., M.S.W., and Ana Stefancic, Ph.D., join Dr. Dixon to discuss the effectiveness of the Peer-led Group Lifestyle Balance intervention, a 12-month manualized healthy lifestyle intervention delivered by peer specialists, in a sample of persons with serious mental illness who were overweight or obese and living in supportive housing.

Publications

[Bochicchio, L., Stefancic, A., McTavish, C., Tuda, D., & Cabassa, L. J. \(2021\). "Being there" vs "being direct": Perspectives of persons with serious mental illness on receiving support with physical health from peer and non-peer providers. Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10488-020-01098-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10488-020-01098-z)

This study explored how people with SMI living in supportive housing perceived receiving support from peer and non-peer providers for their physical health. Qualitative interviews were conducted with 28 participants receiving a peer-led healthy lifestyle intervention in the context of a randomized trial in supportive housing agencies. Interviews explored participants' experiences working with the healthy

lifestyle peer specialist and a non-peer provider who assisted them with health. Overall, participants appreciated the unique roles of both peer and non-peer staff in supporting their health. Study findings have implications for integrating the use of peer-based health interventions to improve the health of people with SMI.

Alcántara, C., Suglia, S. F., Ibarra, I. P., Falzon, A. L., McCullough, E., Alvi, T., & Cabassa, L. J. (2021). Disaggregation of latina/o child and adult health data: A systematic review of public health surveillance surveys in the United States. *Population Research and Policy Review*. Disaggregation of latina/o child and adult health data: A systematic review of public health surveillance surveys in the United States. *Population Research and Policy Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11113-020-09633-4>

The authors conducted a systematic review of the contemporary scientific literature on prevalent Latina/o child and adult health outcomes to determine the proportion of peer-reviewed articles derived from national or state U.S. public health surveillance surveys that disaggregated or stratified Latina/o population health estimates by social determinants and, therefore, provided within-Latino group comparisons. The results suggest the need for programmatic initiatives to promote and standardize Latina/o health data disaggregation across the lifecourse and across the research process from design, data collection, and analysis, to reporting and publication.

Stefancic, A., Bochicchio, L., Svehaug, K., Alvi, T., & Cabassa, L. J. (2021). "We die 25 years sooner": Addressing physical health among persons with serious mental illness in supportive housing. *Community Mental Health Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10597-020-00752-y>

This study sought to identify barriers, and potential solutions, to addressing the physical health needs of people with SMI within supportive housing. There was general consensus regarding multiple barriers at the individual, organizational, policy/system, and community levels. Nevertheless, stakeholders also identified strategies in domains such as staffing, organizational culture, partnerships, communication, and infrastructure for addressing barriers. These findings can inform planning for implementation of health initiatives within supportive housing while also highlighting the need for broader community, systems, and policy change.

Wolfenden, L., Foy, R., Presseau, J., Grimshaw, J. M., Ivers, N. M., Powell, B. J., Talijsaard, M., Wiggers, J., Sutherland, R., Nathan, N., Williams, C. M., Kingsland, M., Milat, A., Hodder, R. K., & Yoong, S. L. (2021). Designing and undertaking randomized implementation trials: Guide for researchers. *BMJ*. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.m3721>

This paper aims to improve the evidence base in implementation science by providing guidance on the development, conduct, and reporting of randomised trials of implementation strategies. This article provides guidance on the key components of randomised trials of implementation strategies, including articulation of trial aims, trial recruitment and retention strategies, randomised design selection, use of implementation science theory and frameworks, measures, sample size calculations, ethical review, and trial reporting. It also focuses on topics requiring special consideration or adaptation for implementation trials. We propose this guide as a resource for researchers, healthcare and public health policy makers or practitioners, research funders, and journal editors with the goal of advancing rigorous conduct and reporting of randomised trials of implementation strategies.

Dopp, A. R., Narcisse, M. R., Munday, P., Silovsky, J. F., Smith, A. B., Mandell, D., Funderburk, B. W., Powell, B. J., Schmidt, S., Edwards, D., Luke, D., & Mendel, P. (2020). A scoping review of strategies for financing the implementation of evidence-based practices in behavioral health systems:

State of the literature and future directions. *Implementation Research and Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2633489520939980>

A major challenge to implementing and sustaining EBPs broadly is the limited and fragmented nature of available funding. The authors conducted a scoping review that assessed the current state of evidence on EBP financing strategies for behavioral health based on recent literature (i.e., post-Affordable Care Act). Authors defined financing strategies as techniques that secure and direct financial resources to support EBP implementation. This article introduces a conceptualization of financing strategies and then presents a compilation of identified strategies, following established reporting guidelines for the implementation strategies. The authors also describe the reported level of use for each financing strategy in the research literature.

Workshops & Conferences

Michael M. Davis Lecture Series

Each academic semester, the Center for Health Administration Studies (CHAS) sponsors the Michael M. Davis Lecture Series which brings renowned policy experts, researchers and commentators to the University of Chicago to explore the intersection of health policy and the broad needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged populations. The Michael M. Davis Lecture Series has been convening disparities research audiences on Tuesdays for decades, at the School of Social Service Administration. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all 2020 lectures have been moved to an online webinar format indefinitely.

The Impact of Foreign Language Use on Health-Related Decisions

February 2nd | 12:30 p.m. CDT

Machine Learning Models of Residential Addiction Treatment Outcomes

February 23rd | 12:30 p.m. CDT

[Register here!](#)

Research Connection- Suicide Risk in Rural Adults: A Comprehensive Model of Risk

February 4th | 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. CDT

The more we understand about suicide, the more we can prevent it. AFSP-funded research is essential to our mission of saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide. Our research funding goes toward studies from neurobiological, psychosocial, and genetic perspectives, as well as topics including clinical treatment, community intervention, and survivors of suicide loss. Our grants help sponsor young investigators, engage senior researchers in suicide prevention, and foster new ideas from suicide researchers at all levels to build a scientific community. We believe it is important to share our findings to increase public knowledge and awareness. Join us for an AFSP Research Connection Program, where you will have the opportunity to engage in a conversation with a researcher about their work and about suicide prevention.

[Register here!](#)

Perspectives on the intersection of Implementation Science and Epidemiology

February 4th | 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. CDT

Joining a series of webinars concentrating on dialogues of transdisciplinary connections between implementation science (IS) and sister fields, this session highlights intersections between epidemiology and IS, exploring the mutual benefit of fields coming together. This webinar will offer conceptual and empirical connections for epidemiologists not well versed in IS and encourage those working in IS to consider how epidemiology can complement their work as they strive to form teams of diverse and complementary expertise.

[Register here!](#)

Evidence-Based Substance Use Treatment

February 11th | 1:00 p.m. CDT

Join the St. Louis Regional Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health on February 11, from 1 until 3 p.m. (Central), for an online webinar, “Evidence-Based Substance Use Treatment,” featuring a keynote presentation by Robert J. Meyers, PhD. Robert J. Meyers, PhD. will present on the general lack of Evidence Based Practices in substance use disorder treatment with a focus on CRAFT (Community Reinforcement Approach and Family Training) as an example of a well-established, but underutilized treatment. This example of CRAFT highlights the concern is not lack of EBPs but providers that are not readily adopting and funders that are not financially encouraging EBPs. Dr. Meyers will provide both an overview of the model and of the current data on outcomes and approaches to training staff in EBPs.

[Register here!](#)

Black Women in Health Leadership: Advocacy, Social Justice, Public Health, and Medicine

February 22nd | 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. CDT

We have organized the event around the theme of Black women in health leadership with a focus on advocacy, social justice, public health, and medicine. Through this event we hope to uplift and empower the voices of Black women leaders devoted to health equity, advocacy, and public health; as well as engage in a discussion about the various issues that impact the health of the Black community. We hope to offer ideas on strategies to close the gaps that are present within the Black community. This moderated event will take place virtually in collaboration with the School of Public Health and The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

[Register here!](#)

The 2021 Child Intervention, Prevention & Services (CHIPS) program

May 10th – 14th

If you are a child psychiatry resident, postdoctoral fellow, or junior faculty member with a strong interest in mental health research for children and adolescents, we invite you to apply to the Child Intervention, Prevention, and Services (CHIPS) program. Funded through a five-year grant from the National Institute of Mental Health, this dynamic, interdisciplinary training consortium will enhance your career and help you find direction and faculty mentors. By attending the program’s five-day intensive annual Summer Research Institute, you’ll refine your objectives and shape a large-scale research project. Deadline to register is 2/14/21.

[Register here!](#)

What We're Reading

Purtle, J., Nelson, K. L., Horwitz, S. M., McKay, M. M., & Hoagwood, K. E. (2021). Determinants of using children's mental health research in policymaking: Variation by type of research use and phase of policy process. *Implementation Science*, 16(13). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13012-021-01081-8>

Research use in policymaking is multi-faceted and has been the focus of extensive study. However, virtually no quantitative studies have examined whether the determinants of research use vary according to the type of research use or phase of policy process. Understanding such variation is important for selecting the targets of implementation strategies that aim to increase the frequency of research use in policymaking. Determinants of research use varied significantly by type of research use and phase of policy process. Decisions about the determinants to target with policy-focused implementation strategies—and the strategies that are selected to affect these targets—should reflect the specific types of research use that these strategies aim to influence.

Wood, K., Giannopoulos, V., Louie, E., Baillie, A., Uribe, G., Lee, K. S., Haber, P. S., & Morley, K. C. (2020). The role of clinical champions in facilitating the use of evidence-based practice in drug and alcohol and mental health settings: A systematic review. *Implementation Research and Practice*. *Implementation Research and Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2633489520959072>

In relation to substance use and mental health disorders, translation of new evidence into practice is an ongoing challenge. The utilization of a clinical champion to motivate staff to implement evidence-based practice in these settings may improve treatment quality and reduce the burden of disease. The article thus aimed to conduct a systematic review to examine the role and efficacy of clinical champions in the drug and alcohol and mental health settings. In the substance use and mental health field, clinical champions appear to be an important component to facilitating practice changes.
