



**Center for Mental Health  
Services Research**

Brown School



Dear Colleagues,

We are excited about the start of a new 2020-2021 academic year. Although this year will certainly look different, and we can't be together in person, we remain committed to providing the Brown School community with the latest behavioral health focused news, including publications, reports, and workshops.

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

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

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## **Workshops and Conferences:**

### **Let's Stop Hiding and Start Taking!**

Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> | 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. CDT

Join Mental Health America of Eastern Missouri for a FREE evening of learning, inspiration and FUN featuring nationally-recognized mental health advocates Cecilia McGough and Nathan Shuherk, of Students With Psychosis. This virtual event includes a presentation about breaking down stigma associated with mental illness on college campuses and an opportunity to learn more about MHA-EM's launch of the Greater St. Louis Collegiate Mental Health Innovation Council. [Register here!](#)

### **Advancing the Use of “Core Components” Approaches: Suggestions for Researchers Publishing Evaluation Results**

September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | 2:00 p.m. EST

This webinar will identify categories of data important to collect and report on that would advance core components approaches. It will also engage audience members in a discussion about how best to incentivize researchers, journal editors and others to make more complete and detailed information available to identify, test, and scale up core components of effective programs. [Register here!](#)

### **SMI PACT: A Specialized Primary Care PACT to Improve the Health Care of Veterans with Serious Mental Illness**

September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | 3:00 p.m. ET

[Register here!](#)

### **Social Justice and Mental Health: Unequal Care: Mental Health and Black Americans**

Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | 6:00 p.m. – 7:10 p.m. EST

Our first panel “Unequal Care: Mental Health and Black Americans” explores the collision of multiple events that lay bare the systemic racism and social adversity that reduces quality of life and life expectancy for many minority groups but particularly Black Americans. Discrimination in healthcare settings contributes to higher unmet needs for health care utilization, poor health and health disparities ... and mental health is no exception. [Register here!](#)

**Virtual Symposium: Advancing the Response to COVID-19: Sharing Promising Programs and Practices for Racial and Ethnic Minorities**

September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The virtual symposium will feature national, state, tribal and local experts leading these efforts and is developed for public health leaders at all levels and community organizations confronting the pandemic.

[Register here!](#)

**CMHSR Seminar: Designing Digital Mental Health Interventions for Implementation in Health Care Settings**

September 30, 2020 | 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. CDT

Dr. Graham is Assistant Professor in the Center for Behavioral Intervention Technologies (CBITs) and Department of Medical Social Sciences in Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine. Her program of research focuses on designing, testing, and implementing digital technologies for mental and behavioral health interventions. [Register here!](#)

**Addiction Health Services Virtual Conference 2020**

October 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Due to the impact of COVID-19, AHSR 2020 is going virtual! Starting in October 2020, AHSR will host virtual plenary speakers and virtual poster sessions. We will also have a virtual poster slam featuring Early Career Researchers. AHSR 2020 virtual plenary sessions and the virtual poster session will be offered free of charge! [Register here!](#)

**NIH Request for Information (RFI): Fostering Innovative Research to Improve Mental Health Outcomes Among Minority and Health Disparities Populations**

The NIMH seeks input to inform the next generation of innovative research and research priority areas to improve mental health outcomes among minority and health disparities populations in the U.S. Of interest are ideas about novel engagement strategies, culturally and linguistically appropriate service delivery approaches, services research methods, and multilevel/multidimensional strategies to accelerate progress toward findings that have both scientific and public health impact in these populations.

All comments must be submitted via email as text or as an attached electronic document. Your responses should be addressed to: [nimhodwd@nih.gov](mailto:nimhodwd@nih.gov) by October 30, 2020.

**Dissemination & Implementation Short Course 2020: Integrating Implementation Strategies & Context**

November 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. CST

This free 3-day virtual short course features CFIR (Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research) expert Laura Damschroder and ERIC (Expert Recommendations for Implementing Change) expert Byron Powell as visiting faculty. They will lead workshop and panel sessions to elucidate how to meaningfully use these frameworks. They will also hold feedback meetings where they will provide individual insights on your projects. We hope you will join us for this professional development opportunity in a flexible and accommodating space – your home! [Register here!](#)

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## Publications and Reports:

Schoenwald, S. K., Bradshaw, C. P., Hoagwood, K. E., & Atkins, M. S. (2020). Special Issue: Festschrift for Leonard Bickman: the future of children's mental health services. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*, 47(5), 649–861.

The special issue includes a collection of 11 original children's mental health services research articles, broadly organized in accordance with three themes (i.e., Improving Precision and Use of Service Data to Guide Policy and Practice, Implementation and Dissemination, and Preparing for Innovation), followed by an interview-style article with Bickman. Then follows a featured manuscript by Bickman himself, three invited commentaries, and a compilation of letters and notes in which colleagues reflect on his career and on their experiences of him.

Ojeda, V. D., Munson, M. R., Jones, N., Berliant, E., & Gilmer, T. P. (2020). The availability of peer support and disparities in outpatient mental health service use among minority youth with serious mental illness. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*. <https://doi-org.libproxy.wustl.edu/10.1007/s10488-020-01073-8>

In this paper, we examine the availability of peer support among publicly funded outpatient mental health programs in Los Angeles and San Diego Counties. We estimate the effect of having a peer specialist on staff, hypothesizing that youth who receive services from programs that employ peer specialists will have a more favorable service profile, defined as a higher use of outpatient services. We also examine whether disparities in service use exist by race/ethnicity among Black, Latinx, and non-Latinx White youth, and if disparities are less present among programs with peer specialists.

Dixon Colon-Rivera, H. & Dixon, L. B. (Eds.). (2020). Editor's choice August 2020: Mental health services in rural areas. *Psychiatry Online*.

Challenges in rural mental health care include inadequate workforce, varying levels and quality of training of new and existing personnel, and inequitable access to care. This collection highlights ongoing efforts to develop an adequate and sustainable workforce to provide rural behavioral health care.

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## Local Behavioral Health News:

[New mental health urgent care clinic to address critical need across St. Louis Region](#)

## CMHSR News:

### Presentations

Dr. Andrea Graham, PhD will present via Zoom at the CMHSR Seminar on September 30<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. The title of her presentation is “Designing digital mental health interventions for implementation in health care settings”. [RSVP here!](#)

Dr. Oladunni Oluwoye, PhD will present via Zoom at the CMHSR Seminar on October 28<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. The title of her presentation is “Barriers to family engagement in mental health services for first episode psychosis”. [RSVP here!](#)

Dr. Kiara Alvarez, PhD will present via Zoom at the CMHSR Seminar on November 18<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. The title of her presentation is “Early intervention for suicide risk among Latinx immigrant youth: Bridging clinical, family, and social contexts”. [RSVP here!](#)

### Publications

Weinstein, L. C., Chilton, M., Turchi, R., Klassen, A. C., LaNoue, M., Silvero, A., & Cabassa, L. J. (2020). ‘It’s common sense that an individual must eat’: Advocating for food justice with people with psychiatric disabilities through photovoice. *Health Expectations: An International Journal of Public Participation in Health Care & Health Policy*. <https://doi-org.libproxy.wustl.edu/10.1111/hex.13101>

Following a Photovoice project focused on barriers to healthy eating and physical activity in urban neighborhoods, participant-researchers were invited to present their insights in community advocacy settings. The purpose of this study was to explore the feasibility and participant–researchers’ experience of these community advocacy activities.

Bunger, A. C., Chuang, E., Girth, A., Lancaster, K. E., Gadel, F., Himmeger, M., Saldana, L., Powell, B. J., & Aarons, G. A. (2020). Establishing cross-systems collaborations for implementation: protocol for a longitudinal mixed methods study. *Implementation Science*, 15(1), 1–14.

This paper describes a study of different strategies for fostering collaboration between child welfare and substance abuse treatment agencies and the conditions under which they are effective for implementation. We also describe the development and piloting of the Collaborating Across Systems for Program Implementation (CASPI) tool—a decision-making guide intended to help researchers and organizational leaders identify and use appropriate collaborative strategies for their context.

Gertner, A. K., Robertson, A. G., **Powell, B. J.**, Jones, H., Silberman, P., & Domino, M. E. (2020). Primary Care Providers And Specialists Deliver Comparable Buprenorphine Treatment Quality. *Health Affairs*, 39(8), 1395–1404. <https://doi-org.libproxy.wustl.edu/10.1377/hlthaff.2019.01559>

We measured buprenorphine treatment quality as patients' retention in treatment and providers' adherence to treatment guidelines. We found that the number of enrollees receiving medication treatment for opioid use disorder increased substantially, but the percentage of enrollees with the disorder receiving treatment remained low. Our results support the role of primary care providers in expanding treatment for opioid use disorder.

**Lengnick-Hall, R.**, Willging, C., Hurlburt, M., Fenwick, K., & Aarons, G. A. (2020). Contracting as a bridging factor linking outer and inner contexts during EBP implementation and sustainment: a prospective study across multiple U.S. public sector service systems. *Implementation Science*, 15(1), 1–16.

This study advances implementation science by expanding the range and definition of bridging factors and illustrating specific bi-directional influences between outer context service systems and inner context organizations. This study also identifies bi-directional dependencies over the course of implementation and sustainment.

Nguyen, M. X. B., Chu, A. V., **Powell, B. J.**, Tran, H. V., Nguyen, L. H., Dao, A. T. M., Pham, M. D., Vo, S. H., Bui, N. H., Dowdy, D. W., Latkin, C. A., Lancaster, K. E., Pence, B. W., Sripaipan, T., Hoffman, I., Miller, W. C., & Go, V. F. (2020). Comparing a standard and tailored approach to scaling up an evidence-based intervention for antiretroviral therapy for people who inject drugs in Vietnam: study protocol for a cluster randomized hybrid type III trial. *Implementation Science*, 15(1), 1–16.

This protocol presents a hybrid type III effectiveness-implementation trial comparing two approaches for scaling-up System Navigation and Psychosocial Counseling (SNaP). We will evaluate the effectiveness of SNaP implementation approaches as well as cost and the characteristics of HIV testing sites achieving successful or unsuccessful implementation of SNaP in Vietnam.

Weiner, B. J., Mettert, K. D., Dorsey, C. N., Nolen, E. A., Stanick, C., **Powell, B. J.**, & Lewis, C. C. (2020). Measuring readiness for implementation: A systematic review of measures' psychometric and pragmatic properties. *Implementation Research and Practice*, 1, 1-29.

This review identifies and evaluates the psychometric and pragmatic properties of measures of readiness for implementation and its sub-constructs as delineated in the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research: leadership engagement, available resources, and access to knowledge and information.

Dopp, A. R., Narcisse, M., 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*, 1, 1-21.

Organizations that treat behavioral health problems often seek to adopt and use evidence-based practices (EBPs). A challenge to adopting EBPs broadly is the limited funding available, often from various sources that are poorly coordinated with one another. To help organizations plan effectively to adopt EBPs, we conducted a review of recent evidence on strategies for financing EBP adoption in behavioral health systems. We present definitions of 23 identified strategies and describe each strategy's reported level of use to fund EBP adoption in behavioral health services. The article also presents a research agenda that will advance knowledge on financing strategies.

Killian, M. O., Sanchez, K., Eghaneyan, B. H., **Cabassa, L. J.**, & Trivedi, M. H. (2020). Profiles of depression in a treatment-seeking Hispanic population: Psychometric properties of the Patient Health Questionnaire-9. *International Journal of Methods in Psychiatric Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/mpr.1851>

The current study used baseline data from two federally funded research studies of treatment for depression among Hispanics in primary care. Confirmatory factor analyses found excellent factor validity for the PHQ-9, yet reliability remained poor. Results indicate modest support for the PHQ-9 and its use among Hispanics for the purpose of depression screening.

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