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Newsletter

January 6, 2015

New Brief: Transforming the Workforce to Provide Better Chronic Care: The Role of a Behavioral Health Nurse Care Coordinator in Minnesota

Hennepin Health, a safety-net accountable care organization in Minnesota, has begun to [integrate primary care](#) into the Hennepin County Mental Health Center through the use of a behavioral health nurse care coordinator. The behavioral health nurse care coordinator works with patients to ensure their care is comprehensive and coordinated by doing complete assessments of patients' medical health, behavioral health, and social needs, as well as providing basic on-site medical triaging and patient education. In addition to highlighting state policy implications, this brief also showcases how [Amber Morgan](#), the behavioral health nurse care coordinator, is able to drive improvements in care for her patients. Since hiring Amber, early data has shown that inpatient hospitalizations and the use of the emergency department among behavioral health patients have decreased.

This [brief](#) is the third in a [six-part series](#), supported by the AARP Public Policy Institute, which explores the evolving role of nurses in new delivery system models.

Deadline Extended: Request for Applications

The National Academy for State Health Policy, with support from the Commonwealth Fund, is seeking applications from states to participate in a new Learning Collaborative which will offer technical assistance to states as they work to develop and design programs to integrate primary care, behavioral health, and social services for individuals with chronic medical conditions and comorbidities. This [Request for Applications](#) (RFA) describes the Learning Collaborative, explains what states can expect, and outlines the application process. **Deadline extended to January 23, 2015**.

National Academy for State Health Policy

The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is an independent academy of state health policymakers who are dedicated to helping states achieve excellence in health policy and practice. A non-profit and non-partisan organization, NASHP provides a forum for constructive work across branches and agencies of state government on critical health policy issues. For more information visit www.nashp.org.

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