



To: UCP of Maine Employees

From: Scott Tash, Chief Executive Officer

Date: October 13, 2014

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Dear Colleagues,

I'm delighted to share with you news about an exciting new partnership that will help us to further enhance the quality of care we offer our clients.

We are now working to connect with Maine's statewide health information exchange. HealthInfoNet is the independent, Maine-based nonprofit organization operating the health information exchange. The health information exchange is a secure computer system that will help us share important client health information with other health care providers across the State, if our clients choose to participate.

HealthInfoNet's secure system links information from separate health care sites to create a single electronic client health record. Having access to this system will give our clinical and behavioral health staff the information they need to make the best decisions possible when treating our clients.

While we believe the use of systems like HealthInfoNet will improve client care, our clients may choose to opt-out and have their medical information removed from HealthInfoNet. To educate our clients about this option along with general information about our use of the exchange, we will be updating our Notice of Privacy Practices and conducting a client awareness campaign.

To assist our employees in speaking about HealthInfoNet with clients, friends, family and the community at large, we have put together the attached talking points that we want to share with you now. For our employees and clinicians with direct contact with clients, we will provide additional resources to help educate clients about HealthInfoNet.

If you have any questions about this exciting partnership, don't hesitate to contact Sadel Davis, Director of Behavioral Health Home & Case Management or Marianne Berube, Director of Human Resources. I look forward to continuing to expand and enhance the quality services we offer our clients and community.

Sincerely,

Scott

Scott Tash
Chief Executive Officer

HealthInfoNet Talking Points

- HealthInfoNet provides a secure statewide computer system, called a health information exchange, for doctors and other health care providers in Maine to share important client health information and improve client care.
- HealthInfoNet is a Maine-based, independent, nonprofit organization and is not owned by insurance companies, health care providers or government.
- Having access to HealthInfoNet helps us work more closely with other providers, make better care decisions, and reduce the chance of medical/clinical errors. This is especially important in emergency situations.
- We are currently working to connect our electronic health record to HealthInfoNet's system, and anticipate to go-live in September 2015.
- Clients have several choices for sharing their health care information with providers using HealthInfoNet. A client's medical information is shared with HealthInfoNet unless the client has "opted-out" with their medical provider. For our purposes, a client must "opt-in" for their mental health information to be shared with HealthInfoNet and their other providers.
- For more information, visit HealthInfoNet's website at www.hinfonet.org.