



We are **AHA.**

Behavioral health providers that are members of the American Hospital Association receive a wide range of valuable benefits, tools and resources – all designed to improve access to **affordable, timely** and **high-quality** behavioral health care.



Advocacy

As the nation's voice for hospitals and health systems, the AHA advocates on behalf of behavioral health providers, actively working with Congress on issues including:

- Full implementation of the parity law
- Alignment of 42CFR-Part 2 with HIPAA
- Expanding funding for opiate use disorder treatment
- EMR funding for behavioral health hospitals

During the current COVID-19 crisis, the AHA has successfully [fought](#) for financial relief, as well as waivers and flexibility designed to make it easier for our behavioral health members to provide safe and effective care.



Collaboration

AHA members get exclusive access to the AHA Behavioral Health Community, an online forum that fosters the sharing of information, ideas and questions.

In addition, the AHA Behavioral Health team hosts regular podcasts and webinars that invite members to share lessons and best practices on topics such as unique behavioral challenges for rural hospitals, and the value of integration of behavioral health considerations with primary care delivery.



Insights and Information

In addition to daily news and advocacy alerts, AHA members receive **Behavioral Health Update**, a monthly report on the latest issues produced in cooperation with the National Association for Behavioral Healthcare.

AHA's website for Behavioral Health www.aha.org/behavioralhealth presents a wealth of resources that address issues around

- **Access and capacity** – solutions to challenges and descriptions of ways members are innovating to answer the growing need for behavioral health care.
- **Awareness and prevention** – resources to educate on the importance and value of reducing stigma, as well as early intervention initiatives, particularly the value of integration with primary care.
- **Clinical innovations** – information on how care integration improves patient outcomes and satisfaction and reduces the total cost of care; how digital solutions can fill gaps in the continuum of care, and more.

Valuable Tools



Telebehavioral Health Guide

The AHA and the [National Quality Forum](#) have collaborated to produce [Redesigning Care: A How-to Guide for Hospitals and Health Systems Seeking to Implement, Strengthen and Sustain Telebehavioral Health](#). This guide describes actionable strategies and interventions and links to a variety of other tools and resources. Using the guide, hospitals and health systems can provide better care to a large number of people who need behavioral health services, but don't have access.



Opioid Resources

AHA is focused on providing member resources to enhance opioid stewardship. Since 2017, the toolkit **Stem the Tide: Addressing the Opioid Epidemic** has become a widely used resource offering guidance and information to hospitals and health systems on how they can partner with patients, clinicians and communities to address the opioid epidemic. The recently released **Opioid Stewardship Measurement Implementation Guide** serves as a companion piece and provides an effective and actionable list of measures to implement best practices using data, address potential gaps in patient care and identify opportunities for continued improvements in opioid stewardship.



Behavioral Health Digital Pulse

AHA members get free access to the Digital Pulse - a tool to strengthen your ability to increase access and capacity, and drive clinical innovation with digital solutions. The Pulse takes less than 30 minutes to complete and will provide results that enable you to benchmark your organization against your peers and identify priorities for action.

After completing the Pulse, users are directed to a platform that provides information on tools to adapt to delivering behavioral health in this new environment. This exclusive forum provides digital insights, peer-to-peer collaboration, and the ability to research solutions.

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From advocacy efforts to care delivery to addressing health disparities, the AHA actively works to advance key issues and ensure the value and importance of behavioral health care to overall health outcomes is understood by all in the effort to improve the health of communities.

– Harsh K. Trivedi, MD, MBA, president and CEO, Sheppard Pratt

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