



# March

## ThinkHealth News 2023

*Software Thinking and Standing with You*



**"You are not alone.  
You are seen. I am  
with you. You are  
not alone."  
— Shonda Rhimes**

### Agency Events and News

National Mental Health Alliance Day - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma is happening on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 07:30AM CDT at Home 2 Suites and It's Free! Mindcare Today Mental Health Resource Magazine is honored to host a statewide National Mental Health Alliance Day! [Click Here for More Information](#)



As an exhibitor at the 2023 For Counselors Only Conference you will have an opportunity to display your products, resources and services related to training and education. Our conference attendees visit the exhibit booths frequently to pick up valuable products, learn about your services, and also use the time as networking opportunities. School counselors are essential to supporting students, parents, teaching staff and support the mental health and social emotional needs of all students.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

#### **Being Mindful in March - Learning how Mindfulness Helps with Physical and Mental Health**

Jennifer Bradac, OT/L, Ohio Living Breckenridge Village Occupational Therapist presents "Being Mindful in March - Learning how Mindfulness Helps with Physical and Mental Health"

[Click Here for More Information](#)



#### **Motivational Interviewing Fundamentals (2 days) - In Person**

Evidenced-based approach to create collaborative, goal oriented dialog to help individuals increase motivation for positive change. Motivational Interviewing (MI) is an evidenced-based approach to create collaborative, goal oriented dialog with an individual to help them identify their readiness for positive changes within their own means. [Click Here for More Information](#)

### Customers Hot Topic

#### **Health Information Exchange (HIE) process going into effect on July 1st of 2023**

By July 1, 2023, all health care providers as defined above and who are licensed by and located in the state of Oklahoma shall report data to and utilize the SDE.

The state acknowledges that establishing the connection to the HIE can take substantial time to complete. A health care provider will be considered to have met the requirement to report data to the SDE as long as the provider is actively engaged with the HIE in the onboarding process of connecting to the HIE, and as reported by the SDE.

[Click Here for Policies and Rules](#)

#### **Medicare Recognition for Counselors Becomes Law**

On Dec. 29, 2022, President Biden signed the omnibus appropriations bill to keep the government funded.

Among the many sections and provisions of the omnibus package was the content of the Mental Health Access Improvement Act. The inclusion of this language accomplishes what NBCC and the Medicare Mental Health Workforce Coalition have been working toward for years: eligibility for counselors for direct billing in Medicare.

[Click Here for More](#)

## NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

### NAMI Ohio joins Gov. DeWine as He Vows to Bring Mental Illness Out of the “Shadows” in State of the State Message

Gov. Mike DeWine outlined broad improvements to the mental health system in his State of the State speech, vowing to bring Ohioans with mental illness out of the shadows. “NAMI Ohio will be working with Governor DeWine and the General Assembly to develop a support system that gives hope to those with mental illness and their families.” NAMI Ohio Executive Director Luke Russell shared while leaving the Statehouse.

“We must face the fact that no Ohioan will ever fully live up to their potential or be able to lead purposeful and meaningful lives if their mental illness remains in the shadows and untreated,” Gov. DeWine said in his annual priorities address at the Statehouse. It was the first of his second term as governor.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

### US Plans to Allow Medicaid For Drug Treatment in Prisons

The federal government is planning to allow states to use Medicaid funds to provide drugs to combat addiction and other medical services for people at state jails and prisons in an effort to help some of those most at risk of dying in the nation’s overdose epidemic. Dr. Rahul Gupta, director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, announced Tuesday that states would be encouraged to submit proposals for how to use money from the joint federal-state low-income health insurance program for incarcerated people. Those that do would be required to provide mental health and drug treatment and would have the option to add some other services. Advocates have long called for such a move and the government last month announced that California was being given approval to use Medicaid for some services for incarcerated people.

[Click Here for More Information](#)



### Mark Your Calendar

#### March 3

[Employee Appreciation Day](#)

#### March 8

[International Women's Day](#)

#### March 14

[Pi Day](#)

#### March 17

[St. Patrick's Day](#)

#### March 21

[World Down Syndrome Day](#)

#### March 25

[Earth Hour](#)

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