

*Dear Community Providers,*

*We are sharing this notice at the request of the Illinois Association for Behavioral Health. Please consider sharing and encouraging your staff to respond in order to better inform parity education and strategy development in Illinois. Thank you.*

From the Illinois Association for Behavioral Health:

As you may know, Illinois was selected as one of five states in the national Parity at 10 Campaign. IABH is the Illinois Parity at 10 Anchor Organization, partnering with Kennedy Forum Illinois. The goal of the Parity at 10 Campaign is to expand access to mental health and substance use disorder services through strong enforcement of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act. The Illinois Parity Coalition is working with five national organizations - Legal Action Center, The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, The Kennedy Forum, Partnership for Drug-Free Kids, and Public Health Management Corporation - on this campaign.

Part of this project includes assessing what providers of mental health and substance use services know about the federal Parity Act. Results will be used to develop educational materials and strategies designed to assist providers in utilizing parity laws to expand patient access to care. IABH and our Parity at 10 National Partners are asking that you and as many staff as possible complete this survey. This may include staff who provide direct clinical services or administrative support as well as senior leadership. **Please share this e-mail widely within your organization.** We would like many different types of providers (e.g., social workers, physicians, psychologists) and staff members (e.g., billing specialists, program directors, benefits coordinators) to take the survey. This will give us the best understanding of what parity education or technical assistance may be the most helpful to different individuals who are involved in the delivery of treatment services.

The survey can be accessed by clicking on [http://bit.ly/provider\\_survey](http://bit.ly/provider_survey) and takes approximately 15 minutes to complete.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Archana Bodas LaPollo at Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC) at [archana@phmc.org](mailto:archana@phmc.org). If you have technical difficulties, please contact Hannah Savage at PHMC at [hsavage@phmc.org](mailto:hsavage@phmc.org). If you have any questions about the Parity at 10 Campaign, please contact Ellen Weber at the Legal Action Center at [eweber@lac.org](mailto:eweber@lac.org).

Thank you in advance for your participation and dissemination!

*Lee Ann Reinert, LCSW*

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