

**“The Great State Update – New York and North Carolina: Effective Partnerships to
Treat Tobacco Addiction in Behavioral Health Settings”**

on Tuesday, August 2, 2022, at 3:00 pm EDT

Speakers:

- **Flavio Casoy, MD**
- **Susan Friedlander, LCSW**
- **Maxine Smalling, MS, BS(N), RN**
- **Kim Bayha, CTTS**
- **Stephanie Gans LCAS, MSW, NCTTP**

One webinar attendee noted “Dr. Jill Williams and Dr. Chad Morris have been instrumental in efforts being done in [our state]. Really recommend them for other states that are getting started in this work.”

Dr. Jill Williams: williajm@rwjms.rutgers.edu

Dr. Chad Morris: bh.wellness@ucdenver.edu / chad.morris@cuanschutz.edu

Q: Who does the training at these clinics? Is it the FIT modules?

A: The learning collaborative is run by the Center for Practice Innovations in the New York State Psychiatric Institute. The FIT Modules are offered through an online learning management system and is available to all licensed mental health and SUD clinics in the state, and other providers as well. (NY)

Q: Crushing Cravings is a 12 session course for staff/providers or for clients?

A: “Crushing Cravings” is a 12-session group curriculum which is primarily geared for individuals living in OMH residential settings. However, it’s also a great opportunity for staff to learn about TUD and treatment. (NY)

Q: Are your Medicaid programs paying for your services quicker with this initiative to improve the health of their constituents?

A: The pace of claims payment has not changed (NY).

A: Is this a question about the MCOs paying for quitline services, or is this a question about claims? In terms of claims, the goal is to see an increase in Medicaid beneficiaries using their tobacco cessation benefits. NC has seen an increase in claims for brief interventions since last year. I don't know that claims are paid any more quickly.

In terms of the MCOs and quitline services, the MCOs all have direct contracts with the state's quitline vendor Optum. This makes it easier for NC to serve more people, as rather than paying providing services to Medicaid beneficiaries and then drawing down federal match funds that defray the cost. The cost of most Medicaid beneficiaries calling the quitline is paid for by Medicaid MCOs through their contracts. This frees up state funds to provide services to more people and more equitable services to priority populations. (NC)

Q: Is there a curriculum that is available for the "Crushing Cravings" program?

A: The curriculum will be released pending review by senior OMH leadership. (NY)

Q: Does New York State have a tobacco treatment specialist training program like North Carolina? If so, how does it fit in as part of all the "training, training, training" that you do?

A: No. (NY)

A: Duke-UNC Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training Program is open to anyone and is provided virtually. Learn more at dukeuncts.com and find a list of all accredited tobacco treatment specialist programs (including those that are in or near NY) at <http://ctttp.org/accredited-programs>.

Registration is still open for the virtual Breathe Easy NC one-day intensive training that prepares folks to help behavioral health systems become 100% tobacco-free and integrate treatment. (NC)