

# QI CONNECT

Quality Improvement Monthly Newsletter

February 2013

## Policy Clarification Memo

Please read the policy clarification memo regarding signing out of Avatar ([click here](#)). This memo outlines the importance of logging out of Avatar when not actively using it to ensure confidentiality of client information. Logging out also frees up resources to increase Avatar speed! It is available in the QI Website under "[Policy Clarification Memos](#)."

## 2013 Quality Improvement Plan

The 2013 Quality Improvement Plan (posted [here](#)) organizes the key QI goals for this year. If you are interested in participating in the QI Committee let us know by sending an e-mail to [John Semo](#).

## Payeeship Project Moving Forward!

MCBH has been given the approval for a pilot project testing the transfer of payeeship to a third party provider. The goal of the pilot is to have a small number of payeeship clients transferred to a third party provider to test the process and work out any issues. It's very early on but what initially started as a QI research project based on staff feedback has moved on to the next stage! QI wants to thank MCBH administration, the Public Guardian's Office, MCBEST, and all the staff that provided feedback and participated in the time studies conducted by QI!

## MCBH Juvenile Justice Program Featured in Letter to Vice President!

In a letter to Vice President Joe Biden, Senator Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento) cited MCBH's Juvenile Justice Youth Diversion Program as an prime example of how Monterey County is tackling prevention and early intervention for middle and high school students struggling with mental health issues and misdemeanor crimes, such as marijuana possession. LCSW Elizabeth Tyler partners with local law enforcement officers in response to the social and emotional needs of troubled youth. When Elizabeth is issued a referral, she determines the teen's appropriateness for the program, then offers group or individual counseling, many times engaging them for volunteer reparation services for the community. The program, an alternative to juvenile hall, offers drug and alcohol evidence-based treatment in creative ways. "For example," Elizabeth said, "an art therapist and I placed four kids—cited for marijuana possession—in a mask-making group. We were able to get a mini-grant from the Lucille Packard Foundation that funded the project, which empowered the kids to make their own decisions drawing on their individual strengths. The strengths were based on archetypes such as King, Queen, Warrior, Lover or Trickster. We role played situations in which the kids used the archetypal masks to stand up for themselves and their values. The masks were displayed in a juried art show at Seaside City Hall. Our kids took first and second place and Honorable Mention!" Great work Elizabeth!



Masks created by Program Participants

Follow the links for the following documents: [cover letter](#) from Senator Steinberg and [The Framework for Mental Health Investment](#) (highlights Juvenile Justice on page 2).

-Stephanie Dugdale

## Staff Training Academy and Training Calendar

Based on feedback from staff and community providers, QI has developed a Staff Training Academy. The Staff Training Academy includes courses such as (click on links below to see descriptions of courses):

- [MyAvatar Training](#)
- [Clinical Documentation Overview](#)
- [Clinical Progress Notes Training](#)
- [Treatment Planning](#)
- [CANS/ANSA Training](#)

The courses are highly recommended for new staff and open to experienced staff as a refresher.

You can sign up for each training directly from the QI Website by selecting the "Training Event Calendar" from the menu. On the calendar, select your training date and choose "Click on the link to register."

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29

Date: Friday, February 08, 2013 - 8:30 am  
 Duration: 8 Hours  
 Email: [https://montereyqi.wednet.edu/forms/clinical-documentation-overview-february-8-2013](mailto:https://montereyqi.wednet.edu/forms/clinical-documentation-overview-february-8-2013)

## Behavioral Health Director Interviewed By Monterey Herald

As we usher in a New Year, now's the Perfect Time to Deal with your Addictions

### A NEW BEGINNING

By Peter Hong



Dr. Wayne Clark, Behavioral Health Director, offered some sage advice to those Monterey County residents wanting to start the new year with a resolution to kick the habit of drugs or alcohol. "...if you think you have an addiction problem, then you do," said Dr. Clark, who was interviewed for an article focusing on addiction in the magazine *Health Matters*. Dr. Clark cites five places in which addiction interferes with daily life: family relationships, work, health, school and the law. The article also includes a list of Monterey County resources and referrals, as well as a helpful questionnaire for readers not familiar with how to determine whether or not they may need help.

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[Click here](#) to read the entire article

## Resources

### New Resources on the QI Website

When we hear about new resources in the community, we post them on the QI website. The following are the most recent resources posted:

- Aging and Long Term Disability Services Network Resource ([click here](#)).
- NAMI - New Family to Family Courses starting in February. This 6 week series educates families on supporting a loved one with mental illness. For more information, [click here](#).

If you know of a resource you would like to share, send us an [e-mail](#).

-Stephanie Dugdale