

Living Independence for the Elderly (LIFE) Behavioral Health (BH) Services Introduction

**Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS)
Subcommittee Meeting**

June 4, 2025

Presented by:

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Bureau of Coordinated and Integrated Services



Pennsylvania
Department of Human Services

▶ LIFE Program BH Services

- LIFE is known nationally as the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
- It is an All-inclusive Medicare and Medicaid program that provides comprehensive medical and social services
- BH services are therefore built in as part of the Program's model of care
- All LIFE Provider Organizations are required to provide BH services to all participants who are determined to need them

➤ Presenter Introductions

- **Up Next: LIFE Provider Organizations BH Services Overview**
 - Presenters
 - InnovAge LIFE
 - Leslie Minna – Vice President of BH
 - Community LIFE
 - Terri Averl – Supportive Care Manager



Living Independence for the Elderly (LIFE) Provider Organizations (POs) Behavioral Health (BH) Services Overview Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Subcommittee Meeting

Date: June 4, 2025

Presenter: Leslie Minna, PsyD, MBA
VP Behavioral Health

Presenter: Terri Averl, RN, BSN, MSN
Supportive Care Manager



DEFINITIONS

- **MENTAL HEALTH (MH)** - Refers to an individual's psychological state

- **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (BH)** - How habits or behaviors impact social, emotional, and physical health (one's overall health)

- **CONSULTATION LIAISON PSYCHIATRY** - Umbrella term that describes behavioral health and medical professionals working at the intersection of medical and psychiatric comorbidities

- **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INTEGRATION (BHI)** - Systematic coordination of behavioral health care with physical health care to increase access to behavioral health support, reduce stigma, and improve continuity of care

WHY INTEGRATE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN LIFE

Clinical Outcomes

- Reduce emergency room (ER) visits
- Reduce psychiatric hospital stays
- Delay transition to facilities

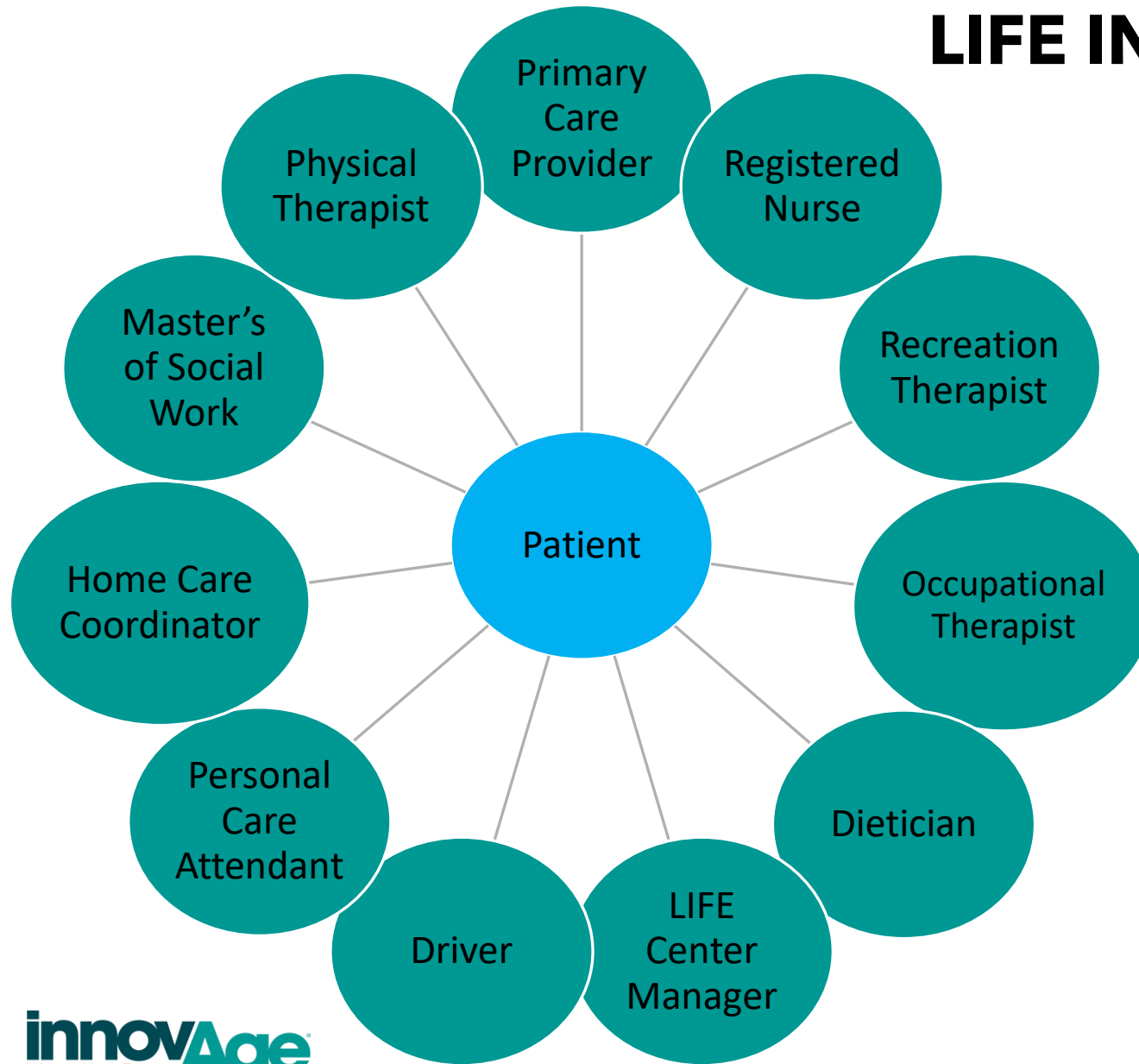
Participant Experience

- Reduce stigma
- Bridge Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) & participant engagement via BHI
- Enroll and retain participants with specialized team-based behavioral health care

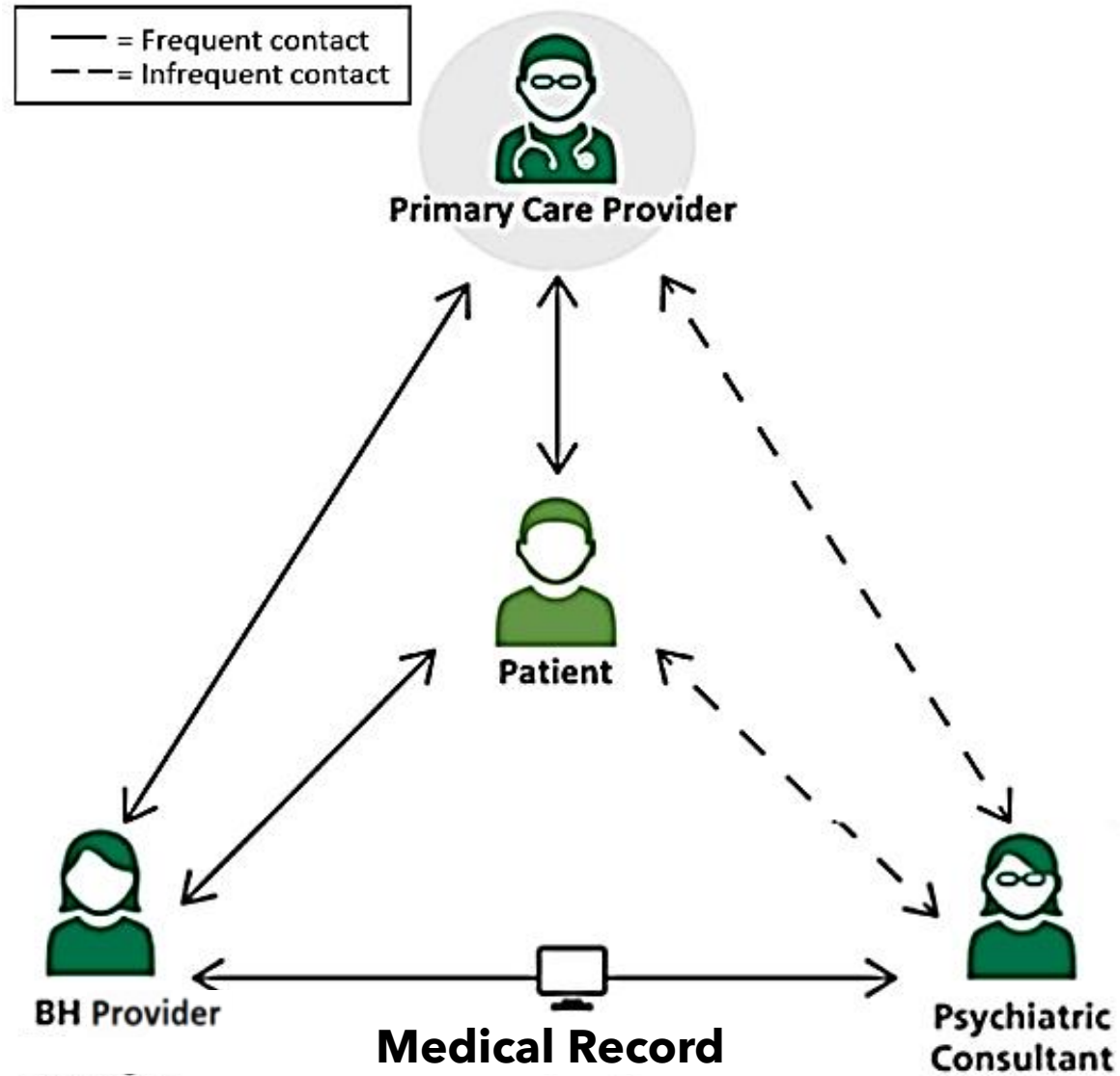
Value-based Care

- Improve care with targeted interventions
- Analyze trends to predict participant needs
- Reduce utilization management by early detection and prevention

LIFE INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM



Collaborative Care Team



LEVELS OF INTEGRATION

COORDINATED Key Element: Communication		CO LOCATED Key Element: Physical Proximity		INTEGRATED Key Element: Practice Change	
Level 1 Minimal collaboration	Level 2 Basic collaboration at a distance	Level 3 Basic collaboration on site	Level 4 Close collaboration on site, with some system integration	Level 5 Close collaboration, approaching an integrated practice	Level 6 Full collaboration in transformed/ merged integrated practice

Primary Care, Behavioral
Health, and
Psychotropic Medication
Management Providers
working holistically

REFERENCES

1. Reducing the Economic Burden of Unmet Mental Health Needs, White House Issue Brief, 2022.
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3. National PACE Association (NPA) BH Operational Task Force Resources Toolkit, 2017.
4. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), 2020.
5. AIMS model: Advancing integrated mental health solutions' collaborative care model, 2021.
6. National Institute for Mental Health, Mental Health: Integrated Care, 2020.
7. National PACE Association Behavioral Health Work Group, 2020.

Questions?