

Greetings, NAMI-CT members and Interested Parties-

The recent articles below cover issues relevant to Connecticut's mental health community:

Wanted: Chief Executive Officer for the Connecticut Insurance Exchange Board, with responsibility for executing the strategic mission of the board established under federal health care reform and charged with creating a fair, competitive marketplace for consumers who will be required to buy health insurance by 2014.

Exchange CEO Must Be Independent And Credible

CT News Junkie - www.ctnewsjunkie.com – January 16, 2012

http://www.ctnewsjunkie.com/ctnj.php/archives/entry/oped_exchange_ceo_must_be_independent_and_credible/#cmt

Every morning Michael Sexton hears the same thing from his 8-year-old son: "Daddy, I don't want to go to school. Daddy, I don't want to go."

Experts Call 'Scream Rooms' Untherapeutic, Harmful To Children And Others At School

The Hartford Courant - www.Courant.com - January 14, 2012

www.courant.com/health/connecticut/hc-scream-rooms-0115-20120114,0,5135886.story

Key legislators have cast doubt on an effort by the state Department of Social Services to restrict eligibility and benefits in a Medicaid program that had been growing at higher-than-expected levels.

Legislators raise doubts about need for Medicaid restrictions

The Connecticut Mirror - www.ctmirror.org – January 17, 2012

<http://www.ctmirror.org/node/15070>

Forty-three Connecticut legislators have signed on to expressed their support for the federal health reform law through an amicus brief being filed on behalf of state legislators across the country.

Legislators sign on to health reform brief for Supreme Court

Published on The Connecticut Mirror - www.ctmirror.org - January 12, 2012

www.ctmirror.org/node/15026

Jeanne Milstein, the state's child advocate, announced today she will retire in March from a job that cast her as a watchdog for neglected and abused children and a player in the continuing struggle over how to reform the Department of Children and Families.

Milstein to retire as child advocate in March

Published on The Connecticut Mirror - www.ctmirror.org - January 10, 2012

www.ctmirror.org/story/15006/state-lose-child-advocate

Adolescents who were abused and neglected have less gray matter in some areas of the brain than young people who have not been maltreated, a new Yale School of Medicine study shows.

Past abuse leads to loss of gray matter in brains of adolescents

Yale News – news.yale.edu – December 5, 2011

<http://news.yale.edu/2011/12/05/past-abuse-leads-loss-gray-matter-brains-adolescents-0>

According to a new look at past antidepressant trials, up to a fifth of patients on Cymbalta and similar medications may actually do worse than those given drug-free placebo pills.

Some depressed people do worse on medications: study

Reuters – www.reuters.com - December 8, 2011

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/12/08/us-depressed-worse-idUSTRE7B72JM20111208>

The problem, says the Department of Children and Families, is that one of every five children has private health insurance that is not covering what their doctors say is needed, leaving the state to pick up the tab.

State's failure to appeal health insurance denials cost millions

The Connecticut Mirror - www.ctmirror.org - January 13, 2012

www.ctmirror.org/story/15037/state-covering-children-health-insurance-remedy-action-one-agency-others-lag

It's not uncommon for a worker's phone to ring 20 to 30 times a day at the Department of Social Services' Danbury regional office where Isabel King works.

To solve DSS delays, more staff or better technology?

The Connecticut Mirror - www.ctmirror.org - January 17, 2012

www.ctmirror.org/story/15045/solve-dss-delays-more-staff-or-better-technology

And on a lighter note:



Curtis – www.seattlepi.com – January 17, 2012

<http://www.seattlepi.com/comics-and-games/fun/Curtis/2012-01-17/>

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or comments. If you happen to see an article or video of potential interest to our members, please do send it along, and we will consider including it in our next edition.

Thank you.

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