

ICSI Appoints Dr. Nathan Chomilo to Board of Directors

Dr. Chomilo, a pediatrician and internist who sees patients at HealthPartners Park Nicollet Clinic - Brookdale, is also a well-known equity advocate working to reduce racial disparities in education and healthcare. He was hired by Minnesota's Department of Human Services (DHS) as its Medicaid Medical Director in December of 2019.

"Nathan Chomilo has worked tirelessly to improve the health of underserved communities across Minnesota along with providing exceptional care for his own patients" said Dr. Claire Neely, President and CEO of ICSI. "An experienced advocate, he is a powerful leader of positive change in addressing structural racism across our healthcare systems and our state government."

[Read the full news release here.](#)



Dr. Nathan Chomilo

Join us for the Zero Suicide Initiative Kicking Off in October

If your organization would like more support in implementing changes to prevent and support people at risk of suicide - now is the time!

Beginning in October, 2020 ICSI is partnering with MDH to bring training resources, implementation support, practical tips and networking with other suicide prevention and intervention champions across the state. In this monthly learning collaborative, teams will develop goals and objectives, and create an action plan for moving forward as part of a learning collaborative.

Based on the seven essential elements of the nationally acclaimed Zero Suicide Model, the new Zero Suicide Initiative will help design and nurture a less fragmented system to support patients at risk for suicide.

[Learn more about the initiative here.](#)



Calling All Leaders

by Dr. Claire Neely, ICSI President & CEO

When it comes to COVID-19, there is still much we don't know. On the other hand, there is a lot that we DO know. As a healthcare provider and a leader, it's disappointing how little that knowledge is being applied.



Dr. Claire Neely

A lack of clear, focused information delivery is adding to the growth of the spread of the virus, most troubling to rural areas and to our most vulnerable populations.

And mixed messages are happening in all sorts of ways. It's clear that scientists are not good at spreading these messages; evidence and data have never been sufficient to significantly change behavior. For example, during this pandemic young people hear they "won't get as sick" which decreases their perceived need to follow safety measures.

However, there is an answer. While we're all anxiously awaiting a vaccine, we have another way to advance good practices: the voice of our community leaders. We need to coordinate and amplify awareness campaigns by engaging them. Community leaders conveying the right messages delivered consistently and clearly to their own constituents is one of the best ways to slow the spread of transmission, save lives, and reduce the impacts of the virus on our health systems.

[Read the full article from Dr. Neely here.](#)



Congratulations to ICSI's Audrey Hansen and Jeyn Monkman for co-authoring an important new study entitled "**Defining and measuring core processes and structures in integrated behavioral health in primary care: a cross-model framework for integrated behavioral health.**"

The study and its findings were published in the August 2020 issue of Translational Behavioral Medicine. [Read the article here.](#)

Mental Health Support for the Healthcare Workforce

COMING UP: Wednesday, September 9th (noon - 1pm CT)

Dr. Jonathan Ripp, Senior Associate Dean for Well-Being and Resilience, Chief Wellness Officer, Mount Sinai Health System

[Visit our website here for registration and more information.](#)

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