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### Psychology, Medical Family Therapy, Social Work, Psychiatric Nursing, Counseling, and Others: Effective Collaborators, or Sibling Disciplines At-War?

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## Psychology, Medical Family Therapy, Social Work, Psychiatric Nursing, Counseling, and Others: Effective Collaborators, or Sibling Disciplines At-War?

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# **Psychology, Medical Family Therapy, Social Work, Psychiatric Nursing, Counseling, and Others: Effective Collaborators, or Sibling Disciplines at-War?**

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# Faculty Disclosures

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The presenters of this session have NOT had any relevant financial relationships during the past 12 months.

# Conference Resources

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Slides and handouts shared in advance by our Conference Presenters are available on the CFHA website at [http://www.cfha.net/?page=Resources\\_2018](http://www.cfha.net/?page=Resources_2018)



Slides and handouts are also available on the mobile app.

# Overall Learning Objective

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*At the conclusion of this session, the participant will be able to:*

- Articulate ways that we all – across a myriad of guild-memberships, license-types, and field/practice orientations – can do better work when we work together

# Specific Learning Objectives

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*At the conclusion of this session, the participant will be able to:*

- Articulate key findings from empirical comparisons of behavioral health sibling disciplines in terms of care outcomes, drop-out rates, and cost effectiveness
- Describe key findings from empirical research regarding common therapeutic factors that overlap sibling disciplines in behavioral health
- Identify ways to include, coordinate, and integrate sibling disciplines in collaborative care teams

# Bibliography / References

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Crane, D., & Christenson, J. (2014). A summary report of cost-effectiveness: Recognizing the value of family therapy in health care. In J. Hodgson, A. Lamson, T. Mendenhall, and D. Crane (Eds.), *Medical family therapy: Advanced applications*. New York, NY: Springer.

Hamilton, S., Moore, A., Crane, D., Payne, S. (2011). Psychotherapy dropouts: Differences by modality, license, and DSM-IV diagnosis. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 37, 333-343. doi: 10.1111/j.1752-0606.2010.00204.x

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Swift, J., Tompkins, K., & Parkin, S. (2017). Understanding the client's perspective of helpful and hindering events in psychotherapy sessions: A micro-process approach. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 73, 1543-1555. doi: 10.1002/jclp.22531

# Learning Assessment

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A learning assessment is required for CE credit

A question and answer period will be conducted at the end of this presentation

# Contemporary Fields & Specializations in Behavioral Health

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Distinctions that were once limited and relatively clear (e.g., Psychiatry, Psychology, Social Work) are now extensive and oftentimes complex / ambiguous

Students aspiring to work in Behavioral Health, alongside patients / families seeking services, have a lot of choices

- This can be a good thing (e.g., matching need/want to specialized focus)
- But it can also be confusing and frustrating (e.g., navigating payers and politics)

Biomedical providers can also find these distinctions confusing

# Fields & Specializations (continued)

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Current-day “sibling disciplines” in Behavioral Health vary by credentialing

- Certificate (additional credentialing over-and-above a baseline degree)
- Master’s-degree (e.g., MA, MS, MSW)
- Doctoral-degree (e.g., Ph.D., PsyD, EdD, MD)
- Licensure (e.g., LP, LICSW, LP, LMFT)

# Fields & Specializations (continued)

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Current-day “sibling disciplines” in Behavioral Health vary by disciplinary “home” (guild) and identity

- Psychiatry
- Psychology
- Counseling
- Marriage and Family Therapy
- Medical Family Therapy
- Social Work
- Others...

# Fields & Specializations (continued)

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Regulation (licensure)  
Ethical Codes  
Diversification of Technology/Approach  
Specialized Skill Sets



Inflexible Professional Identity  
Guild-Preservation Over Collaboration  
Culture of Self-Protection

# Collaborators or Competitors?

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Sibling discipline tensions are not unique to Behavioral Health

Questions re: Collaboration vs. Competition exist throughout healthcare

- *Family Medicine versus....*
- *Pediatrics versus...*
- *Nursing versus...*
- *Hospitalists versus...*
- *Internal Medicine versus...*
- *Endocrinology versus...*
- *Dieticians versus...*
- *Others...*

# The Pie Analogy

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The pie is a fixed size

Everyone needs to protect the size of their slice

Your guild can get more of the pie by stealing some of others' slices



# The Pie Analogy

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Actually, the pie has grown  
There is plenty to go around

# Contemporary Demands for Behavioral Health in Integrated Care

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Current-day demands for integrated care are outweighing current-day supply(ies) of available and competent Behavioral Health clinicians

Biomedical providers do not tend to understand (or care about) guild-driven tensions and/or turf battles between Behavioral Health “siblings” – i.e., they just want BH in their teams

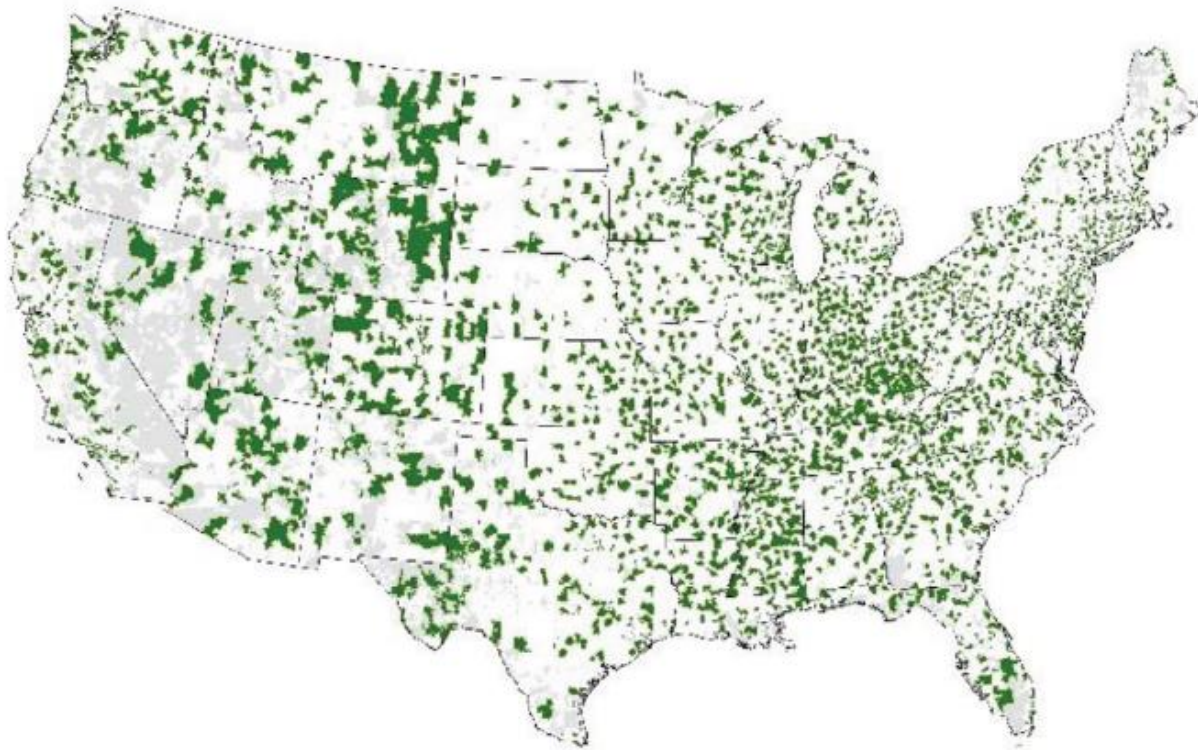
# National Supply and Demand

## All Behavioral Health Practitioner Categories, 2013 and 2025

Practitioner	2013 Estimates Scenario Two (Alternative)			2025 Projections Scenario Two (Alternative)		
	Supply	Demand	Difference	Supply	Demand	Difference
Psychiatrists	45,580	56,980	-11,400	45,210	60,610	-15,400
Behavioral Health NP	7,670	9,590	-1,920	12,960	10,160	2,800
Behavioral Health PA	1,280	1,600	-320	1,800	1,690	110
Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists	186,710	233,390	-46,680	188,930	246,420	-57,490
Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors	85,120	106,380	-21,260	105,970	122,510	-16,540
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	110,880	138,630	-27,750	109,220	157,760	-48,540
Mental Health Counselors	120,010	150,000	-29,990	145,700	172,630	-26,930
School Counselors	246,480	308,130	-61,650	243,450	321,500	-78,050
Marriage and Family Therapists	30,560	38,250	-7,690	29,780	40,250	-10,470

# Socioeconomic Discrepancies

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**42%**

high income communities  
have services

VS

**23%**

low income communities  
have services

# Resources

## **M** | BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE RESEARCH CENTER

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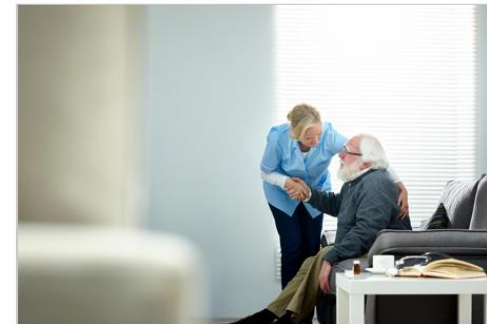
Research to produce a workforce to  
meet the nation's behavioral health  
needs



[Minimum Data Set \(MDS\) Research](#)



[Characteristics and Practice Settings  
Studies](#)



[Scopes of Practice \(SOPs\)](#)

# Collaborators or Competitors?

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Sibling disciplines in Behavioral Health overlap a great deal in what they are able to contribute to team-based care

- Acute and long-term therapy / care services
- Psychoeducation
- Team coordination

They also bring unique and/or specialized skillsets to the table.

- Diagnostics (by presenting problem, age-group, etc.)
- Individual/Couple/Family/Group care formats
- Primary/Secondary/Tertiary/Other care formats

# Collaborators or Competitors? (continued)

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Sibling disciplines differ considerably in foci outside of on-the-ground care arenas, including:

- Guild-power (e.g., APA vs. AAMFT)
- Competitive lobbying efforts for third-party payer coverage
- Visibility (and preference) in hiring practices
- Institutional perceptions regarding practice rigor, care outcomes, and cost-effectiveness

*Consequently, many like-minded colleagues who could otherwise work well together find themselves at-odds with – or even in direct conflict with – each other*

# Sibling Discipline Comparisons

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Most literature comparing sibling disciplines focuses on side-by-side disclosures regarding training, credentials, and finances

- Years of education (2, 3, 4, 5, 8+, etc.)
- Degree type (MA, MS, Ph.D., PsyD, MD, etc.)
- Clinical hours / supervision for licensure (internship, residency)
- Costs for services (e.g., MA/MS = cheapest; MD = most expensive)
- Expected / Average salaries (e.g., MSW = lowest; MD = highest)



# Comparisons (continued)

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Most literature comparing sibling disciplines against each other is archival (not experimental or quasi-experimental)

- Cost effectiveness
- Treatment duration / frequency
- Drop-out rates

# Comparisons (continued)

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Most literature comparing different therapy modalities against each other (i.e., manualized, experimental or quasi-experimental) stays within one care discipline

- CBT vs. BT vs. control(s)
- NET vs. TIFT vs. control(s)
- Integrative FT vs. mono-modal FT

# Comparisons (continued)

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Most literature regarding therapy processes / outcomes shows that

- Something is better than nothing
- Degree type (e.g., MA vs. MS vs. Ph.D.) makes no difference
- Common therapeutic factors are more influential than therapy type, provider degree / credential, and/or disciplinary identity / type

# Where does Therapeutic Change come from?

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Common factors / tx relationships (30%)

Expectancy (15%)

Extra-therapeutic factors / events (40%)

Counseling techniques (15%)

# Common Factors

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## Therapeutic Relationship

- empathy, encouragement
- patient/client thinks/knows that the clinician cares

## Shared World View

- by race/ethnicity, SES, life-experiences, etc.

## Patient/Client Expectations

- client sees clinician as expert
- placebo (and nocebo) effects

## Rituals and Interventions

- directive, non-directive

# Core Competencies for Integrated Care (SAMHSA-HRSA)

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1. Interpersonal Communication
2. Collaboration & Teamwork
3. Screening & Assessment
4. Care Planning & Care Coordination
5. Intervention
6. Cultural Competence & Adaptation
7. Systems Oriented Practice
8. Practice Based Learning & Quality Improvement
9. Informatics

# Where is the Conflict?

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## Educational Worlds

- Disciplinary disciple-ship and socialization-processes in graduate school

## Clinical Worlds

- Siblings generally work well together (when they have the opportunities to do so)

## Operational Worlds

- Hiring practices favor Psychology and Social Work

## Financial Worlds

- Policy / Guild-battles for payment-preference range from tense (at best) to viscous (at worst)

# Examples of Sibling Discipline Collaboration

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Primary Care

School Mental Health

Military Installation



## ***Activity...***

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On the post-it note(s) provided to you, write down something that you have seen or heard that you believe keeps Behavioral Health guilds from working together (i.e., collaborating).

## ***Activity...*** (continued)

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What are some of the common themes (generally)?

What are some of the common themes related to policy? education / training? payment? hiring practices? other?

# Call-to-Action

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What can we do to better-advance collaboration between our Behavioral Health siblings? *What is next?*

# Call-to-Action (continued)

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Recognize that we need each other

- Nationwide shortage of Behavioral Health services and access
- Our shared (overlapping) and respective/distinct strengths contribute to a whole more than the sum of its parts
- Create space / opportunities to train and work together
- Curriculum that extends beyond disciplinary home-base / departments
- Interdisciplinary training sites
- Interdisciplinary supervision and practicum sequences
- Interdisciplinary presentation / writing / advocacy sequences

# Discussion / Q & A

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# Contact Information

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# Session Evaluation

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Use the CFHA mobile app to complete the evaluation for this session

Thank you!