

## Suicide Prevention and Social Determinants of Health Highlight Mental Health Integration Meetings

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, USA, August 30, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- New initiatives and new companies were on display at the Intermountain Healthcare's 18th Annual Mental Health Integration (MHI) Retreat held at Intermountain Medical Center in Murray, Utah.

What matters to you? That is a central point that was asked throughout the MHI Retreat. The Retreat brought together providers in primary and specialty care, members of the psychiatry field, and community members for the purpose of addressing mental health and medical outcomes.

The theme illustrated talking about making connections for better mental health – not only with family and friends, but also doctor to patient.

Dr. Brenda Reiss-Brennan, Intermountain's Behavioral Services clinical director, opened with talking the incredible lengths that providers have gone to so far to normalize mental health. Using mental health integration, Intermountain has pushed forward to treating the "whole person."

Here are the highlights of the retreat:

•Intermountain's new Zero Suicide Initiative, which focuses on getting upstream of situations and issues that lead to suicide. How to prevent suicide, get access to care, and seeking help for those in danger.

•The social determinants of health – non-medical social and economic challenges that can affect someone's health.

•Bhannon Phillips, MD, chief patient experience officer, and Anne Pendo, MD, internal medicine medical director, showed how the patient experience has changed. The need is to not think of the patient going to the doctor, but the doctor going to the patient – by finding their interests and values.

•Banel discussion of clinic programs, pediatrics, cardiovascular, pregnancy and newborn and psychiatry showed how mental health integration has helped their patients and the need to expand the service to more specialty care areas.

•Emerging technologies that benefit mental health including telehealth. Alluceo, an Intermountain Healthcare company that offers proven, team-based mental health integration services and technology, showcased their technology for screening patients for MHI. This included an app that can send information from patient to provider and then provider to patient for mental healthcare plans.

•Integrating primary care with chronic pain and how it addresses substance use. Staff from the Intermountain Layton Clinic presented about how an integrated referral process helps patients.

Intermountain Healthcare is a Utah-based not-for-profit system of 22 hospitals, 170 clinics, a Medical Group with about 2,300 employed physicians and advanced practice clinicians, a health plans group called SelectHealth, and other medical services. Intermountain is widely recognized as a leader in transforming healthcare through high quality and sustainable costs. For more information about Intermountain, visit <u>www.intermountainhealthcare.org</u>.

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