

Press Contact: Steve Harvey, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer, 716.289.6300

Date: April 18, 2023

## Integrity Partners for Behavioral Health, IPA receives the Excellence in Research Community Level Award from the University at Buffalo, School of Social Work

"There is no question this project will position New York State as a national leader in mental healthcare while helping accomplish the transformational goals for the State's healthcare system."

Robert Myers, Ph.D., Senior Deputy Commissioner of the NYS Office of Mental Health

Integrity Partners for Behavioral Health IPA (IPBH) is the recent 2023 recipient of the Excellence in Research Award for Community Partners from the University at Buffalo, School of Social Work, Buffalo Center for Social Research (BCSR). Dr. Catherine Dulmus, Professor, Associate Dean for Research, and Director of BCSR presented the award stating:

"Established in 2020, this partnership between Integrity Partners for Behavioral Health, IPA, the Buffalo Center for Social Research, and the UB Department of Biostatistics, and others here at UB have collaborated with our team of 11+ to develop a data warehouse that encompasses the Electronic Health Records of 50,000 individuals receiving mental health and substance abuse services across 14 rural counties in NYS."

"A data-warehouse is the ultimate big data tool to harness information to address the most pressing research questions facing practice today with the goals of improving client outcomes while decreasing cost. Our partnership is elevating implementation science through data-driven practice to a new level."

"(Integrity is) visionary, innovative, risk taking, good problem solvers, and committed to our project. Together, we are a solid and productive team committed to science and knowledge building as we learn together how to improve practice and subsequently the lives of New Yorkers with substance abuse and mental health challenges living in rural communities."

Dr. Steve Harvey, Chief Executive Officer of IPBH describes the BHDAC and Integrity's partnership with the University at Buffalo as:

"There are few academic and community partnerships of this type in the nation and its disruptive innovation stands to enhance the impact of mental health and substance use treatment services for clients across Integrity's 21 rural Partners and the field of behavioral health."

John Bennett, Chief Executive Officer, Genesee Orleans Council on Alcohol and Substance Abuse and Board President of Integrity Partners:

"The Integrity Partners board of directors appreciates this recognition and is excited about what the future holds for this important initiative."

## **Contact information:**

- Steve Harvey, Ph.D., CEO IPBH, steve.harvey@integritypartnersbh.org, 716.289.6300
- John Bennet, CEO of Genesee Orleans Council on Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Board President of IPBH, <a href="mailto:jbennett@gcasa.org">jbennett@gcasa.org</a>, Phone: 585.815.1850

**Integrity Partners for Behavioral Health, IPA** is a collaboration among 22 partners across 14 counties whose top priority is to improve the behavioral health outcomes for its 50,0000 clients in NYS rural communities through high level data analytics, clinical integration, strategic programs, sharing of expertise, and the leveraging of limited resources.