



Collaborative Health Care: From Vision to Practice

A growing body of professional literature documents the benefits of integrating medical and behavioral health care. Unfortunately limited collaboration currently exists between the services that children and adolescents typically receive from their primary care physicians and their behavioral health providers. To better meet the physical and psychosocial needs of youth, pediatric and mental health providers must work together to ensure that their shared patients receive comprehensive and well-coordinated services. Such seamless provision of care captures the vision of both the Medical Home and the Behavioral Health System of Care paradigms.

This EPIC module is designed to provide an overview of the opportunities and models that facilitate collaborative primary care and behavioral health practice. Insights into the needs and challenges of both primary care and behavioral health providers are reviewed, and successful strategies to overcome these challenges are offered.

The *Collaborative Health Care: From Vision to Practice* module is offered through the Education Practices in the Community (EPIC) Program. A professional trainer will visit your practice at a time that is convenient for you and provide a brief presentation to you and your entire staff on forging collaborative partnerships between pediatric primary care and behavioral health.

Presentation Objectives

- Awareness of the continuum of collaborative primary care and behavioral health practice to help you choose the model best suited to your office
- Knowledge of specific strategies to foster collaboration with behavioral health providers to address the needs of shared patients
- Familiarity with sample tools for establishing and maintaining efficient and effective communication between behavioral health and primary care

EPIC provides:

- > Tools to enhance collaboration
- > Lunch or snack

