

Match Summary

Name of Match: **Integration of Disciplines**

Location of Match: Washington, D.C.

1. Brief summary of the outcomes of your match

The two day Match including time for group discussion, site visits to a mental health service provider and a primary care provider, meetings with federal officials from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), a lunch-n-learn presentation, and time to informally socialize.

The Match centered discussed on two key questions:

- What will the specialty mental health and substance use sector evolve into as a result of health care integration, population health, and changing public perceptions; and
- What is the current and future state of workforce initiatives for the behavioral health field?

There was a strong emphasis on the wide range of factors influencing the ability of the specialty mental health and addictions community to adapt to fast changing systems-level changes including financing, workforce, evidence-based practices, etc. Participants shared many tools that are being used to provide technical assistance and to inform policy makers. The primary outcome was shared learning, resources, and agreement on the need to foster discussions among stakeholders. Only through exchanges such as these will we have the time to learn and inform new ways of tackling “wicked problems”.

2. Resources used in your match

- [Let's get real](#) A national NZ framework of knowledge, skills and attitudes for the mental health and addiction workforce, and very recently adapted for the disability workforce
- [Working to top of scope](#) – NZ literature review to encourage services to consider some of the issues and barriers when looking at future roles and service design
- [On Track](#) – NZ future service delivery for mental health and addiction
- [Milbank Integration Report](#) – US report on current efforts to integrate primary and behavioral health care
- [Milbank Workforce Report](#) - US report on the current and future state of the healthcare workforce
- [Integrated Care Core Competencies](#) – US competencies developed to support the integration of primary and behavioral health care

3. Brief description of how your match has accelerated change towards mental health, well-being and inclusion

The Match facilitated discussions on policy and regulatory influences that are supporting and/or hampering innovation in the US and NZ health care systems. Patient-centeredness and the focus on quality and cost were principles that were consistent throughout the Match exchange. Match participants were in agreement that improved sharing of research, reports, promising practices, and tools would greatly benefit the behavioral health field by reducing duplication, providing a foundation for more advanced policy and practice change, and reinforcing commonalities.

4. Brief description of how your match has built leadership for the future

The match provided participants with an opportunity to exchange similarities and unique opportunities and challenges faced by stakeholders working to improve the quality of mental health and primary care/general practice. The opportunity facilitated deep connects with professionals and organizations that will serve as a resource for continued dialogue and exchange.