

# **Journal of Social Service Research: Call for Papers**

## **Integrated Primary and Behavioral Health**

*Journal of Social Service Research* seeks multidisciplinary research-related manuscripts for a special issue on research that examines primary and behavioral health care (PBHC) integration as a means for delivering quality care and improving overall health outcomes among vulnerable populations, with emphasis on persons with mental disorders, substance use disorders and co-occurring mental and substance use disorders. A considerable amount of evidence shows that higher levels of PBHC collaboration and integration are associated with more positive health outcomes; yet the knowledge base in social work lags far behind that of other disciplines, such as medicine, nursing, and public health.

All articles must reflect research that is data-based or critical and systematic reviews of the literature that clearly outline previous research and make recommendations for future research. Of particular interest are studies that reflect efforts to engage key stakeholders in the research process, such as clients, family members, providers, and community groups and agencies. The following sample topic areas, in addition to other manuscripts addressing integrated PBHC will be considered for peer review:

Research that evaluates programs, practices, and services provided to persons in behavioral health care settings intended to:

- prevent, reduce, and treat serious illness and chronic disease
- promote wellness
- increase access to primary care services

Research that examines efforts to build or expand behavioral health capacity in various primary care settings, including studies that analyze services data, provider satisfaction, and client outcomes.

Research that evaluates behavioral health services provided to persons in primary and community-based health care settings that seek to identify and reduce illicit drug use and heavy alcohol use and improve various domains of functioning.

Research using multivariate approaches that describes characteristics of populations that are underrepresented in the extant literature on integrated PBHC services, such as women, persons with substance use disorders, persons with co-occurring disorder, persons who reside in rural areas, and higher-functioning individuals who are employed.

Research evaluating formal training of social work students in integrated PBHC settings and studies examining issues around professional and workforce development, organizational change, and policy aspects.

**Submissions Guidelines:**

To submit a manuscript for consideration:

Send complete author's contact information including e-mail addresses and electronic copy of the article with a cover letter that describes the topic area of the study. The cover letter must contain a statement that the manuscript has not been published previously and has not been submitted simultaneously for publication elsewhere.

Page limits for these submissions are 40 double-spaced pages including all supporting materials such as tables, graphs, and references. All supporting information needs to be in one file.

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Deadline for submission: September 1, 2014

**Send Submissions and Questions to the Special Issue Guest Editor:**

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