What Employers Should Know About Mental Illness: The Benefits of Early Detection and Intervention

Staff from the MMC Portland Identification and Early Referral (PIER) Program will discuss their program and efforts to educate community members about mental illness in order to prevent disability. Audience participants will learn about common mental illnesses in the workplace and how they impact productivity, relationships, health care costs and sick time. PIER will also share preliminary data from a recent Maine employer survey conducted to identify how mental health issues impact local worksites, as well as implications for future research in this critical area.

Workshop Objectives:
- Participants will be able to identify early warning signs of 4 common mental illnesses and their impact on functioning.
- Participants will learn the importance of detecting symptoms early and providing resources to employees.
- Participants will explore the role of employers in employee mental health issues.
- Participants will learn how mental illness can affect cognition, behaviors, works performance, and relationships.

Presenters: Donna Downing, MS, OTR/L presently serves as Director of Training for the Early Detection and Intervention of Psychosis Program (EDIPP) a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation National Program based at Maine Medical Center. EDIPP is replicating the PIER program in five sites across the country. She has specialized in the field of psychiatry for over 20 years, with a particular interest in Family Psycho education training. She has taught mental health occupational therapy to both undergraduate and graduate students at USM and the University of New Hampshire and is a published writer in the field.

Anita Ruff, MPH CHES, is the Deputy Director of Administration at the MMC- Center for Psychiatric Research and EDIPP. Prior to joining EDIPP, she worked for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a state and regional public health advisor. In this capacity she oversaw the development, implementation and evaluation of Maine's state cancer plan. She conducted similar work with New England and Mid Atlantic states. She has also been active in obtaining funding for a variety of cancer-related initiatives including skin cancer prevention, colon cancer detection and improving quality of life for cancer survivors.

Date: Thursday February 11, 2010 from 8:30 am-11:30am
Fee: □ $40.00/Person □ $30.00/person (two or more, same organization)
Location: USM Abromson Community Education Center, Room 216, Portland Campus
Parking: Free parking is available in the Bedford Street Garage. The facility is attached to the Abromson Center. Bring your ticket to the seminar.
Contact: Tom Downing, President, Phone: 207-781-1545—Fax:207-781-1550 or downit@mmc.org

Registration Form
To register for What Employers Should Know About Mental Illness please complete the following form and return to the Lifeline Workplace Health Program, 5 Bucknam Road/Suite 1H, Falmouth, ME., 04105 or call (207) 781– 1545 or FAX (207) 781-1550

Name ___________________________ Job Title: ___________________________
Organization ___________________________
Mailing Address ___________________________ No of Employees _______
City/State ___________________________ Zip ___________________________
Work Phone ___________________________ Fax ___________________________
Email ___________________________

Payment Options & Registration Deadline: Monday, February 8, 2010

Check one: □ Visa □ MasterCard □ Discover □ American Express □ Check □ 
PO # ___________________________ please send me an invoice.

Credit Card No# ___________________________