Meridian Services Leads the Way in Integrated Healthcare

Meridian Services, central Indiana’s premier provider of behavioral health services, introduces a new approach to patient care that integrates physical, mental and social health of an individual. This philosophy of healthcare focuses on the “whole person” treating the body and mind for total well-being.

To provide this higher quality of care, Meridian Services has added primary family medical care into its core services by opening MeridianMD. This will offer patients a true “medical home” where treatments, medications and doctors are coordinated seamlessly to address the full spectrum of one’s health.

Integrating physical, mental and social health helps increase better quality of care and patient outcomes, satisfaction and convenience. For example, an individual who may have a physical ailment affected by stress, an unhealthy lifestyle or a psychological disorder can many times go undiagnosed because their mental health was not addressed by a traditional medical care provider. This new approach values and addresses every dimension of one’s health for better well-being.

Meridian Services is the first and currently only behavioral healthcare provider in Indiana to offer such care. It was motivated by recent research that discovered that people with serious mental illness experience 25 years less life expectancy than Americans overall. Sadly, nearly three of five individuals die from primarily preventable diseases such as heart disease and diabetes.

Medical needs of the mentally ill are more likely to be seamlessly coordinated when psychiatrists and primary care doctors practice in the same facility. MeridianMD represents Meridian Services’ commitment to the complete care of its patients as well as its desire to provide “whole person” healthcare to the community.

Meridian’s Premier Benefit Gala

Meridian Services’ second Rialzo benefit fundraiser not only treated over 500 attendees to the sounds of the world-famous “Kool & the Gang”, but also shared the “Spirit of Meridian” and the importance of a healthy mind and community.

Meridian Services and their supporters literally took over the Horizon Convention Center on May 21 in a true community collaboration. Attendees were treated to valet parking, a red carpet walk, silent and live auctions, and rotating live stage performances from Muncie Civic Theatre, Cornerstone Center for the Arts, and the Muncie Symphony.

The “Spirit of Meridian” awards (see article on page 2) demonstrated the value Meridian Services places on ‘above and beyond’ dedication to making communities healthier while helping create greater mental, physical and social well-being.
To help the community become more aware of child abuse and the services available to prevent it, Meridian Services presented its 3rd annual "We Have a Voice" 5k Child Abuse Prevention Walk in April. To date, more than 1,000 people have participated and over $15,000 has been raised. Meridian Services' Gresham Center houses the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) dedicated to child abuse investigations and recovery.

Meridian proudly presented its first ever "Spirit of Meridian" Awards at Rialzo II to an outstanding employee and community member who demonstrated above and beyond dedication to our mission of creating healthier communities. Our winners regularly go above and beyond expectations, display a selfless attitude while serving others, strive for excellence, exhibit a giving spirit, initiate ideas that allow us to be better, show utmost respect for all whom they interact with, cultivate relationships that allow collaboration, and inspire others to follow their example.

COMMUNITY AWARD WINNER
CHRISTINA (TINA) DRUMMOND, M.D.
Medical Director
Emergency Department
IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital

Dr. Drummond was recognized for her commitment and dedication to patient care as well as her efforts in collaborating with Meridian’s inpatient psychiatric program located at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital. It is well known in the behavioral health and emergency medical services communities that psychiatric patients pose a significant challenge to hospital emergency departments. “I believe you can find an exception to this at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital, due in large part to the leadership of Dr. Drummond. Dr. Drummond has fostered a culture committed to providing excellent emergency care to psychiatric patients,” said Barbara Sells, Meridian Services Program Manager.

EMPLOYEE AWARD WINNER
KIMBERLY J. CANAN
Behavior Clinician
Suzanne Gresham Center, a division of Meridian Services

"Kim is one of the most resourceful and creative people I have met. She finds a way to get her clients what they need...so she can change their lives. She treats each of her cases as if they were children of her own," said a fellow employee.

Another co-worker stated, “Most people would not want to take on kids like Kim sees. She works with the most challenging cases; usually kids who are headed to residential treatment centers. Yet, if you were to meet any of the children with whom Kim has spent time, you would discover kind, respectful, thankful kids who have come to respect their community.”
Meridian Adds to Growing Medical Staff

Meridian Services is proud to announce that Abdul Subhan, M.D. and Arman H. Siddiqui, M.D. have joined its medical staff. Both doctors are psychiatrists with additional residency training or fellowship. Dr. Siddiqui has a fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Dr. Subhan has residency training including an internship in Family Medicine. Both doctors have completed their medical training and earned a Doctor of Medicine degree in 1996 from Dow Medical College in Karachi, Pakistan.

Both doctors will be working to fill the unmet needs of adults and children in our community. To help with this, Meridian will be opening a Saturday clinic that will be more convenient and accessible for working families. Services are also provided in Richmond, New Castle, Portland and Winchester.

“These doctors bring diverse knowledge and specialized expertise that will offer the highest quality of care to our patients, and we are very much looking forward to their contributions,” says Hank Milios, President/CEO, Meridian Services. “We are very fortunate to have them join our community.”

Walk-In Hours and Locations

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday-Friday</th>
<th>Muncie</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>240 N. Tillotson Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Muncie, IN 47304</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>New Castle</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>930 N. 14th Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday and Thursday</td>
<td>New Castle, IN 47362</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Richmond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 S.W. 5th Street</td>
<td>47374</td>
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Contact Meridian Services at 866-306-2647 to learn more or visit us during Walk-In Hours. www.meridiansc.org

The Listening Tree LEAVES OF COURAGE

Honoring children who have experienced abuse.

Dr. Jon & Janis Hendrix, donors who initiated the “Listening Tree.”

The Multi-Disciplinary Team interviews children who have been abused.

Dr. Sally Myers, artist

Meridian Services’ Connxxions program perfectly represents a dedication to progressive ideas and care of challenging patients. The Connxxions program began in a collaboration between Decel Moore, Program Manager, and Bob Coles, VP of Business Development, to better address the needs of individuals who have both developmental challenges and mental health issues.

Through this exclusive Meridian Services program, individuals with a dual diagnosis gain skills that foster independence and enrich their lives. Today, Connxxions serves over 700 individuals in 21 Indiana counties and Meridian Services is considered a leader in this area of care.

The Connxxions program focuses on developing an individual’s ability to recognize when a mental health issue is occurring or about to occur. Ultimately, individuals will better their coping skills through Connxxions. Improving communication and learning through experiences are key features of the program. Connxxions also works with the individual’s support network. Caregivers and family members will learn through the Connxxions program how to better help their loved one.

Meridian Services’ Connxxions program operates in collaboration with the CAC. The CAC is nationally accredited and has helped increase prosecution rates of abusers.

Meridian Services’ Child Advocacy Center (CAC), located at the Suzanne Gresham Center, hosted an open house that featured the unveiling of the life-size, tile art "Listening Tree – Leaves of Courage" in honor of children who have undergone investigations of abuse and interviews at the CAC. The CAC is nationally accredited and has helped increase prosecution rates of abusers.

Meridian Services • www.meridiansc.org
Meridian Services is a regional, progressive healthcare services organization that provides “whole person” healthcare integrating physical, mental, and social well-being of an individual. Meridian’s comprehensive range of services helps people of all ages and health needs focus on renewing lives with compassionate care.

Medical care, psychiatric care, children’s services, support groups and counseling are offered along with specialized programs for persons dealing with addictions, family challenges, abuse, homelessness, HIV, mental illness, developmental disabilities and other issues. Simply, Meridian helps people cope and gives families hope to make the most of their lives. Meridian Services has been serving the community for over 35 years and is accredited by the Joint Commission and certified by the Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addictions.

You Can Make a Difference
Meridian cares about the people who come to us and the communities that rely on us. Meridian’s 500 employees work hard to provide a wide variety of specialty health programs and services to people who need it most, and it’s done for 9,000 patients a year. Your investment in Meridian Services will express the value for high-quality, personalized healthcare. It will help to ensure Meridian's programs and services will continue to be provided, support new and innovative programs, and create a legacy of care for the future.

Medical care is drastically changing with state and federal funding diminishing, resulting in many vital programs in our industry being eliminated. Community and individual support are keys to helping continue such needed programs.

You can make the difference! Your contribution can help us be available to people within our area for years to come. We appreciate your value in Meridian Services and the people we help.

Donate to Meridian Services
www.meridiansc.org/donations.asp

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