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## **MANET COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER HIRES NURSE CASE MANAGER FOR OFFICE-BASED OPIOID TREATMENT PROGRAM**

QUINCY, MA (September 15, 2016) -- Manet Community Health Center is pleased to welcome Corinne Sieben, BSN, RN, as nurse case manager for the health center's new office-based opioid treatment program, which is being piloted at Manet's Snug Harbor and North Quincy practice sites.

Sieben comes to Manet with more than 17 years of community health nursing, including 15 years at McLean Hospital's inpatient dual-diagnosis (psychiatric and substance abuse) unit. "I am eager to transition to the outpatient setting so that I can help support patients with continuity of care and follow them along their journey to regaining their lives and their health," she says.

### ***Manet Office-based Opioid Treatment Program***

Manet's Office-based Opioid Treatment (OBOT) program is funded through the Department of Public Health, with technical assistance from Boston Medical Center's groundbreaking Office-Based Addiction Treatment program, as a step toward integrating addiction treatment into overall health care services. The OBOT program is open to Manet patients. Patients wishing to receive medication assisted treatment must select a Manet primary care provider.

The program will enable Manet providers to offer both buprenorphine, sometimes known as Suboxone, and injectable naltrexone, sometimes known as Vivitrol, to opioid-dependent patients in the privacy of their doctor's office. These medications are effective in the treatment of opioid addiction by alleviating drug cravings and easing withdrawal symptoms. Vivitrol can also be used to treat alcohol dependence.

"The community health center setting provides the comprehensive services necessary to treat the whole person and all of their health care needs – not just the addiction," says Lily Yung, MD, Manet's Chief Medical Officer. "Having a nurse care manager who is in regular contact with the patient over an extended period of time, coordinating all of his or her care, gives the patient a much better chance of success. We also have the added benefit of having a pharmacist right on site to further ensure that the whole care team is on the same page."

In order to prescribe buprenorphine, physicians must obtain a waiver from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). To qualify for the waiver, licensed physicians must have subspecialty board certification in addiction medicine or undergo at least

eight hours of approved training in buprenorphine use. Currently, four Manet providers have received training and waivers.

“This is a problem we see so many of our patients struggling with and now, by being able to prescribe these medications, we are able to treat opioid addiction just like we treat diabetes, hypertension, or any other chronic disease,” says Dr. Yung.

As a nurse care manager, Seiben will work with the prescribing provider to help manage all aspects of the patients’ health and wellness, including screening for opiates, counseling and education, making follow-up appointments and referrals. She will see most patients on a regular pre-determined basis for several months or longer.

“This program is a good way to give people who are committed to recovery the support they need in a safe environment,’ says Sieben. “People are able to resume their daily lives while they are getting treatment. It’s so rewarding to see people who are able to reunite with their families, go to work and get their lives back on track.”

***Educating the Community is Key to Success***

“Overcoming the stigma of substance use disorders is one of the biggest hurdles we face,” says Sieben. “One of our goals will be to help educate the community about the benefits of medication assisted treatment so people can understand how programs like this can save lives.”

To help build community awareness about substance use resources and treatment options, Manet is hosting a community forum, ***What you Need to Know About Substance Abuse Disorders Treatment and Services***, on **Wednesday, October 5**, from **6 to 8 p.m.**, at **Quincy High School**, 100 Coddington Street. The event is meant to help people learn about the substance use disorder treatment system and where they can go for help. Prior to the panel discussion, representatives from local organizations will be available to offer information about addiction treatment resources. A question and answer session will follow the panel discussion. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 857-403-1575 or email [kkroeger@manetchc.org](mailto:kkroeger@manetchc.org)

***Media are invited to attend*** by registering at 617-690-6323.

**About Manet Community Health Center:**

*Founded in 1979, Manet Community Health Center, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) dedicated to providing preventive, primary and non-emergent urgent care to all, regardless of financial circumstance or health insurance coverage status. With three locations in Quincy, one in Hull and one in Taunton, Manet serves patients from numerous surrounding communities. Manet is accredited by The Joint Commission and its practice sites are recognized as Level 3 Patient Centered Medical Homes by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NQCA), and Pathway to PRIME by the MA Health Policy Commission. Manet provides services that are reflective of the languages and cultures of the communities it serves and offers a full array of services and programs for infants, children, adolescents, adults, and seniors. For more information, visit [www.manetchc.org](http://www.manetchc.org) or [www.facebook.com/ManetCommunityHealthCenter](https://www.facebook.com/ManetCommunityHealthCenter).*