Hello ECHO Idaho,

The past few months have been supercharged with new developments:

August 24 marked the close-out of our COVID-19 Safety for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care series...but it was also the relaunch date of our COVID-19 series, which we held weekly through September and October to keep current on the pandemic. Since then we also wrapped up our Pediatric Behavioral Health series and hosted our seventh-ever X-Waiver Training with 60 clinicians in attendance!

We recently welcomed two new program coordinators, Jocelyn Elvira and Laura Jackson, as well as specialists on new and existing ECHO panels. Read about them all in this newsletter.

Looking ahead to 2022, our Hepatitis C series will be relaunching with a new name and scope in January, along with a brand new ECHO series, Pediatric Autism. We hope you’ll join the conversation.

This Thanksgiving season, we’re extending our gratitude to you. We recognize that the past few months have been challenging for healthcare teams across Idaho, and we want you to know that we appreciate your tireless and lifesaving work.

Here’s to a safe, happy and healthy yearend.

Best,

Lachelle Smith
Director, ECHO Idaho
We’re very excited to announce the launch of a new series coming this January to ECHO Idaho focused on pediatric autism spectrum disorder (ASD), a condition affecting over 8,000 Idaho children and their families. Led by a panel of subject matter experts, ECHO Idaho’s Pediatric Autism series is designed to strengthen confidence and enhance existing competencies in treating and diagnosing pediatric autism in the primary care setting.

The series will meet second and fourth Thursdays, noon to 1 p.m. Pacific time, 1-2 p.m. Mountain time, beginning January 13, 2022. Register today!

Viral Hepatitis and Liver Care

ECHO’s Hepatitis C series has been on hiatus since September, but it’s returning to the schedule beginning Monday, January 10, 2022. The series has been rebranded to Viral Hepatitis and Liver Care, to reflect the expansion of its focus.

ECHO Idaho hosted the second of its twice-annual X-Waiver Trainings this past September. We were very pleased to see 60 clinicians in attendance!

In case you missed it, ECHO Idaho will be hosting three X-Waiver Trainings next year on the following dates:

- Monday, Feb. 7, 2022
- Tuesday, Jun. 21, 2022
- Monday, Sept. 19, 2022

It’s never too early to RSVP to reserve your spot!
ECHO Idaho’s Podcast: The Complete First Season

The first season of our flagship podcast is now available to stream or download on our website or wherever you get your podcasts. *Something for the Pain* focuses on trends, strategies, and local resources available to Idaho healthcare teams as they work to prevent, treat and help individuals recover from opioid and substance use disorders in Valley County and across Idaho. Earn up to 6 hours of CE/CME credit just for listening.

If you’ve already tuned in, tell us what you think: post your comments on your app or send us an email. And be sure to subscribe or follow us on your preferred podcast platform so you don’t miss out on Season Two.

New ECHO Panelists

Welcome ECHO Idaho’s newest panelists, Nari Hsiu, DO and Natalia Samudovsky, LCPC, NCC.

New ECHO Panelists (cont.)

Nari Hsiu, DO
Psychiatry Specialist and Addiction Medicine Fellow
University of Washington, Boise Addiction Medicine Fellowship

Dr. Hsiu made her ECHO Idaho debut as a rotating panelist in the Opioids, Pain and Substance Use Disorders series. She recently joined our Counseling Techniques for Substance Use Disorders series as a standing panelist. Following her residency, Dr. Hsiu plans to pursue a career in community psychiatry and addiction medicine here in Idaho.

Natalia Samudovsky, LCPC, NCC
Counselor
Trivium Life Services, Boise

Natalia joined ECHO Idaho’s Counseling Techniques for Substance Use Disorders series as a licensed professional counselor and a national certified counselor. Natalia works with both adolescent and adult clients in individual and group settings, specializing with clients who are justice-involved.
New ECHO Staff

Welcome ECHO Idaho’s newest Program Coordinators, Jocelyn Elvira and Laura Jackson.

Jocelyn Elvira

Jocelyn has worked for the University of Idaho since 2015, starting as an Intern, then as a Nutrition Instructor before starting as a Program Coordinator for the University of Idaho Extension program - Eat Smart Idaho. She served low-resource individuals and families within eight counties in the areas of nutrition, physical activity, food safety, and food resource management. Her transition to ECHO Idaho has helped her continue to strive for equity within community health in Idaho. Jocelyn holds a Bachelor of Science from the College of Idaho and a Master’s in Public Health from the Milken Institute of Public Health at George Washington University. When not in the office, Jocelyn enjoys trying new foods and recipes, reading, and spending time with her family and Corgi pup.

Laura Jackson

Prior to joining the ECHO team, Laura worked in the department of Academic Affairs at the Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine in Meridian, where she managed information systems involved in delivering curriculum and collaborated with faculty and staff to coordinate the learning objectives for courses and programs. Throughout her career Laura has striven to improve processes, procedures and information systems to meet the changing needs of students, educators and her co-workers. Laura holds a Bachelor of Science in Fashion Merchandising from East Carolina University. In 2006 she relocated to Boise to be closer to relatives. In her free time, she likes to camp, ski and hike with her family and their very energetic dog.
New ECHO Kiddos
Since our last newsletter, ECHO staff members Lindsay Lodis and Kayla Blades both brought new life into the world.

Say hello to Mercer James Lodis (left), born August 30, and Maesie Christine Blades (right), born October 19.

In the Spotlight

Physician of the Year: Sky Blue, MD

Dr. Sky Blue of ECHO Idaho’s COVID-19 series panel was recently honored at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Ada County Medical Society where he was named ACMS Physician of the Year.

Dr. Blue is an infectious disease physician at Sawtooth Epidemiology and Infectious Diseases. Since the start of the pandemic, Dr. Blue has been instrumental in sharing his expertise with the public for the promotion of safe, evidence-based practices pertaining to the COVID-19 virus and its variants.

Thanks, Dr. Blue, for all you bring to ECHO and to the larger medical community!

Continuing Clinical Social Work Education with ECHO Idaho

ECHO Idaho offers multiple opportunities each week for participants to learn, ask questions, share experiences, and connect with peers to sharpen skills, grow their community and expand their resource network.

Following his retirement in 2020, ECHO Idaho helped Charlie Pohl, LCSW, stay connected with the social work community—and even helped him further his career. Read his story on our website.

We appreciate you, Charlie, for your participation, leadership and investment across multiple ECHO series!

Funding Awarded for ECHO Idaho Behavioral Health Education Initiatives

ECHO Idaho was the only entity in the state to be awarded funding from this year’s Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Mental Health Awareness Training grants. The award will support and sustain ECHO Idaho’s Behavioral Health in Primary Care series across five more years.
Current Series at ECHO Idaho

Behavioral Health in Primary Care
First and third
Wednesdays
11 a.m. to noon PT / Noon to 1 p.m. MT

PDF Flyer: Behavioral Health in Primary Care - Downloadable Program Schedule

Behavioral Health in Primary Care Series Specialist Panel

Counseling Techniques for Substance Use Disorders
First and third
Thursdays
11 a.m. to noon PT / Noon to 1 p.m. MT

Join us Dec. 16 for a lecture presented by Amy McKenzie, LCPC, NCC, therapist team coordinator, Trivium Life Services, Boise, on Virtual Therapy Techniques.
PDF Flyer: Counseling Techniques for Substance Use Disorders – Downloadable Series Flyer

Counseling Techniques for Substance Use Disorders Series Specialist Panel

COVID-19
First and third
Tuesdays
11 a.m. to noon PT / Noon to 1 p.m. MT

PDF Flyer: COVID-19 Downloadable Series Flyer

COVID-19 Series Specialist Panel

Opioids, Pain and Substance Use Disorders
Second and fourth
Thursdays
11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. PT / 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. MT

Join us Dec. 9 for a presentation by Derek Hayton, DO, Addiction Medicine Fellow at the Family Medicine Residency of Idaho, on Alcohol Use Disorder: Trends, Risks, and Treatments.
PDF Flyer: Opioids, Pain and Substance Use Disorder Downloadable Program Schedule

Opioids, Pain and Substance Use Disorders Series Specialist Panel

Sign Up Now
**ECHO Idaho: In The News**

**ECHO Idaho To Unveil Free Educational Series for Healthcare Professionals Focused on Pediatric Autism**  

**ECHO Idaho Announces Pediatric Autism Series**  

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**Clinician Interest Survey**

Are there challenges unique to your practice that ECHO could help remedy? Are there skillsets, healthcare practice areas or resource materials you would be eager to learn or review, given the opportunity?

Please let us know!

Fill out our three-minute Clinician Interest Survey and help us assess your interests in topics for future ECHO Idaho programs.

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Support ECHO Idaho. [Give today](#).

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EMAIL: echoidaho@uidaho.edu  
PHONE: 208-364-4698  
WEBSITE: uidaho.edu/echo

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Our mailing address is:  
University of Idaho  
Idaho Water Center  
322 E. Front St., Ste. 222  
Boise, ID 83702