



AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana invites you to join a **TeleECHO™ Clinic**

An emerging case-based learning model for practitioners

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana is excited to launch TeleECHO clinics — an emerging case-based learning model for practitioners. This opportunity is free for participating AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana practitioners. Please read on for more information and register to join an ECHO model™ clinic.

What is Project ECHO®?

The “Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes,” or ECHO model, was developed at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center and is now used nationwide in the United States and internationally.

The ECHO model facilitates case-based learning for front-line practitioners via teleconferencing clinics. Similar to virtual chart rounds, the ECHO model creates a space where practitioners can share knowledge and build support to better manage patients with complex care needs.

For more information on Project ECHO, please visit <https://echo.unm.edu>.

What’s the goal of this program?

The AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana TeleECHO program exists to:

1. Disseminate specialty knowledge, with consideration of social and environmental factors through case-based learning.
2. Collaborative education and sharing of information for integration of primary and behavioral health care.
3. Increase collaboration and coordination of services across providers (medical and behavioral health).
4. Identify barriers providers experience in referring members to treatment.
5. Incorporate opportunities for networking between physical health providers, behavioral health providers, and substance use treatment providers.

How does a TeleECHO clinic work?

Practitioners from multiple locations connect at regularly scheduled times through teleconferencing. These virtual TeleECHO clinics allow practitioners to present de-identified patient cases to a team of peers and experts for mentoring and shared learning. Case-based discussions may also be supplemented with short didactic presentations to improve content knowledge and share evidence-based practices.



Who participates in a TeleECHO clinic?

All levels of AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana practitioners are welcome to participate in Project ECHO at no cost; this includes physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, community health workers, counselors, pharmacists, and emergency medical technicians.

Our health plan staff have been trained to facilitate the ECHO model and will guide the experience. AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana's Chief Medical Officer, Behavioral Health Medical Director, and Market Pharmacist will also participate, as pertinent to the cases being reviewed.

TeleECHO clinics are not intended to replace a practitioner's clinical judgment; the practitioner is responsible for determining applicable treatment for the patients under his or her care.

Are continuing education units offered for this program?

Yes. Providers can earn free continuing education units (CEUs) from the Louisiana Counseling Association (LCA) for participation in this program. Credits are available at a rate of one per every 10 participation hours. The LCA is approved by the Louisiana Licensed Professional Board of Examiners to offer continuing education for Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors and Provisional Licensed Professional Counselors.

Do I need special equipment to attend?

It is best if you have a webcam-equipped laptop, tablet, or smartphone to attend the TeleECHO clinics. Clinics will take place via a cloud-based software application called Zoom. The application is PC- and Mac-compatible and is available at no cost to participants. However, you may need to download Zoom to your laptop, tablet, or smartphone in order to participate.

When and how often will TeleECHO clinics take place?

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana is now piloting the first physical health (PH) and behavioral health (BH) integrated care TeleECHO clinic. Follow the link below to register for this pilot integrated care clinic.

Clinics will be ongoing and additional clinics will be established to address specific topics as the need dictates. All TeleECHO clinics will occur regularly, at a set time.

Focus	Start date	Frequency	Registration
PH/BH integrated care	January 2022	Every other Wednesday	https://amerihealthcaritas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwscu2vqTsuHtIWnlA2ZPQGZWUJyG1ORNpC

How do I register to participate?

Please follow the registration link above, complete all fields, and click **Submit** to finish your registration.

Once you submit your registration form, health plan staff will review your information and email you to confirm your participation in the TeleECHO clinic. Your confirmation email will include additional instructions for participation.

Questions?

Please contact the TeleECHO Program Coordinator at **1-855-410-6639** or projectecho@amerihealthcaritas.com.