The Early Psychosis Professional Educational Event

On April 12, 2017, The UMass Psychotic Disorders Clinical & Research Program hosted the Early Psychosis Professional Education Event at UMass Medical School. The event featured didactic presentations, panel discussions and a Q & A component to speak about services available for patients in the early stages of psychosis. This included conversation about early detection/prevention, coordinated care and educational resources available for patients in the Central Massachusetts area. Representatives from various distinguished academic institutions, government agencies, community based mental health organizations, and patient advocacy groups in the greater Boston area were present. This included speakers from Harvard Medical School, UMass Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital, Mass Mental Health Center, Department of Mental Health, Department of Public Health Massachusetts - Worcester Division and National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Massachusetts Central. Topics ranged from pharmacological interventions to co-occurring substance use and medical problems, to treating youth with complexities such as psychosis & dual-developmental concerns. The event allowed mental health professionals in a variety of different settings to come together to learn from each other and collaborate over one common goal which is to provide the best possible care for patients diagnosed with psychosis. We would like to extend our thanks to all who attended the event, including our speakers who shared their intervention & treatment strategies based on years of experience.



Dr. Ziedonis, Psychiatry Department Chair, giving the welcome & introduction.



Dr. Oliver Freudenreich, MD, FAPM, presenting "Pharmacologic Intervention for Early Psychosis".



Dr. Larry Seidman, PhD, Professor of Psychology, presenting "From High Risk State to First Episode Psychosis: Scientific and Clinical Developments".



Dr. Seidman & Dr. Freudenreich speaking during the panel discussion.



Community Healthlink's Jaques 5 Band playing during the event.