Tele-health

- Affordable T1 lines are rapidly becoming available for Critical Care Access Hospitals across the state. This computer technology will permit the use of video conferencing to link patients with providers.
- This technology will permit patients at more remote sites to interact with specialists and BHPs who off-site.
- Hospitals may be able to get cost-based reimbursement by Medicare to pay for the services.
- These reimbursement issues will be critical but if successful, will open the door to many more health care services, including behavioral health, right in the local hospital.
- Early collaborative training is important and many institutions and professions are currently working on developing collaborative training models.
- Many training programs and existing practices are looking more seriously at integration which will place behavioral health professional’s directly in medical settings.