

THE BRAIN AND BEHAVIOR INNOVATION CENTER (BBICEN) NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

The Brain and Behavior (BBICen) Newsletter is a brand new quarterly communication highlighting exciting news and happenings about or within the CU Anschutz Department of Psychiatry's Brain and Behavior Innovation Center (BBICen). We'll share general information, faculty media features, past and future events, research updates, and much, much more. Please enjoy our inaugural issue and keep coming back for more!





THE HISTORY OF BBICEN

The Brain and Behavior Innovation Center (BBICen) was born from the vision of Dr. C. Neill Epperson, Chair of the Department of Psychiatry, who recognized the urgent need for new, innovative approaches for dealing with the current mental health crisis. Dr. Jay Shore was named Vice Chair for Innovations in 2022 to oversee the Department's portfolio of mental health innovation initiatives. He led the establishment of the Department's Brain and Behavior Innovation Center (BBICen), under the authority of the University of Colorado system. He now serves as the Executive Director under Dr. Epperson, who serves as the Senior Scientific Advisor.

VISION & MISSION

VISION

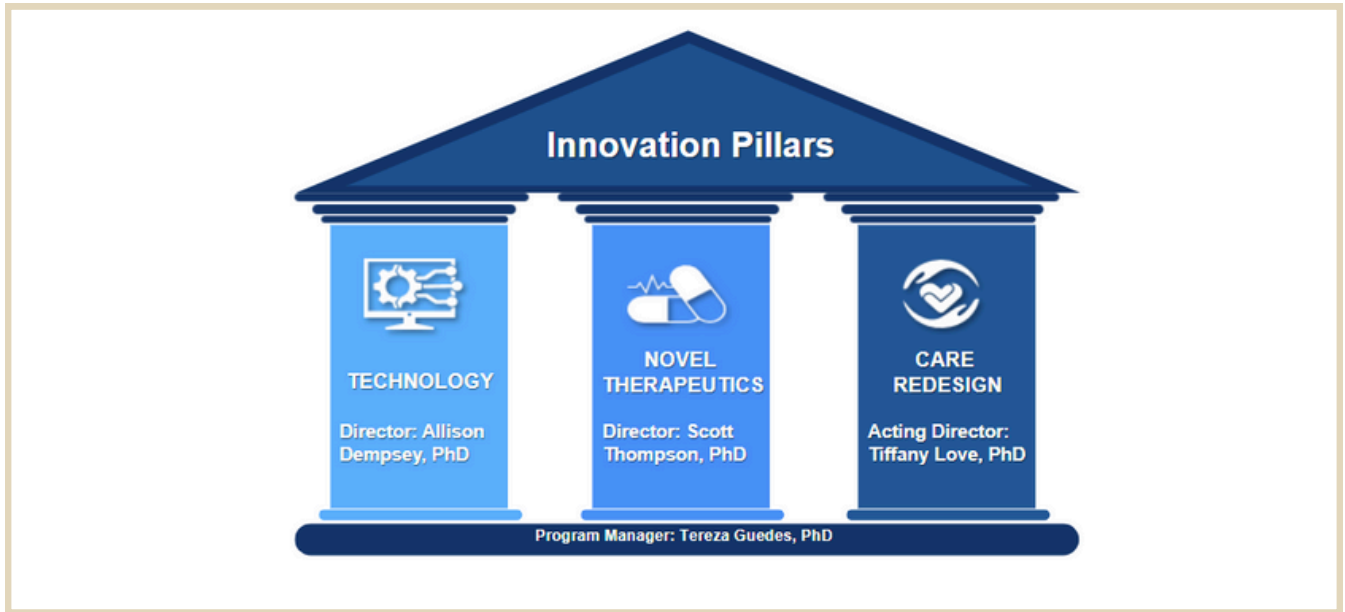
The Brain and Behavior Innovation Center (BBICen) at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus fosters innovation in mental and behavioral health treatment and care delivery in the service of “Brain Health for all, for life” to improve the well-being of patients, their families, and communities in the greater Rocky Mountain region and beyond. This will be accomplished by fostering and supporting a culture of innovation in health care technology delivery, and in novel interventional and pharmacological therapeutics within the Department of Psychiatry and across the CU Anschutz campus. The Center will work to support the University of Colorado’s leading national and international reputation in innovations with expertise in brain and behavior.

MISSION

Our mission is to advance innovations in mental and behavioral health through the three pillars of Technology, Therapeutics, and Care Redesign.

In each of these we will:

Create, develop, implement, and evaluate novel approaches to treatment; foster a workforce and culture that creates and advances innovations; Partner with internal and external collaborators in academia, government, industry, and community; and promote the development of institutional, intellectual, and financial resources.



LEADERSHIP TEAM



Neill Epperson, MD
Chair and Senior Scientific Advisor,
University of Colorado Brain and
Behavior Innovation Center (BBICen)



Jay Shore, MD
Executive Director and Vice Chair for
Innovation, University of Colorado Brain
and Behavior Innovation Center (BBICen)

TECHNOLOGY

Allison G. Dempsey, PhD serves as the Director of Informatics and the Director of Technology for the University of Colorado Brain and Behavior Innovation Center (BBICen)



NOVEL THERAPEUTICS

Scott Thompson, PhD serves as the Director of Novel Therapeutics at the University of Colorado Brain and Behavior Innovation Center (BBICen)

CARE REDESIGN

Tiffany Love, PhD serves as the Acting Director of Care Redesign at the University of Colorado Brain and Behavior Innovation Center (BBICen)



INNOVATIONS PROGRAM MANAGER

Tereza Guedes, PhD serves as the Program Manager at the University of Colorado Brain and Behavior Innovation Center (BBICen)

FEATURED INITIATIVE

Brain Camp

The Avielle Foundation partnered with the Department of Psychiatry of Colorado University and Brain and Behavior Innovation (BBICen) to create science-driven solutions to promote brain health, compassion, and to reduce violence. One of the Seed Grant Projects funded by this initiative is the Brain Camp Program, led by Dr. Tracy Bale.

This past June Dr. Bale, together with Jessica Fluharty, Ms. Mindingo, and Mr. Sclossberg-Cohen (Artist) brought the Brain Camp to the Isabella Bird elementary School in Aurora, CO. The Brain Camp is an interactive science and art based program using creative and engaging activities to teach children about the brain to boost emotional well-being and manage stress.

The students learned the importance of brain health through fun and engaging hands on science and art experiments.

Camp activities culminated in children designing Little Free Libraries boxes to be installed in their local community to serve as a resource and reminder as to the power and importance of brain health.

Empowering kids with the knowledge to talk about the brain and emotional well-being is invaluable.



Dr. Tracy Bale involving brain camp attendees in some STEAM experiments



Jessica Fluharty working on artistic expression with a student



Dr. Neill Epperson joining in on the fun!

BBICEN NEWS

AWARDS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Jay Shore's UPL project, "Integrated Care in Family Medicine: Virtual and In-person Integrated Behavioral Health Services," has been selected by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) to receive the 2024 AAMC Integrated Behavioral Health Award.

MEDIA FEATURES

New research shows antidepressants work, just not the way many originally thought. Learn more in the chanel9 news report with BBICen's own Neill Epperson and Scott Thompson.

View the video by scanning the QR code below.



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