

## **Historic Open Enrollment Builds Hope for General and Behavioral Healthcare in the Future**

In his latest blog, Ron Manderscheid, PhD, Executive Director of the National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors, proclaimed October 1<sup>st</sup> as an historic day. "The United States reached a tipping point: We joined all other developed countries by taking a necessary step toward universal health insurance coverage. "A quarter century hence, we should see a vastly changed health landscape. We will see a reduction in the glaring health disparities experienced by people who are poor or near-poor. We also will see much greater access to needed care, and many fewer people with active illnesses who receive no care at all," Dr. Manderscheid projected.

He also elaborated on action steps that behavioral healthcare providers must take to achieve "special hopes for people who experience mental health and substance use conditions," which he also describes. To read this entire blog, visit <http://www.behavioral.net/blogs/ron-manderscheid/tipping-point-day-american-people>.