

## **CBHC BOARD POSITION STATEMENT 21.0**

### *Integrated Care*

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#### **Position Statement**

Colorado must advance a system of healthcare services – across mental health, physical health, and substance use – that is integrated in service delivery, actively involves patients as partners in care, and coordinated with community resources to promote whole person health and well-being.

#### **Background**

For years, Colorado has been at the forefront of innovation for designing a healthcare system that focuses on treating the whole person and embraces the philosophy that good mental health is a core component of health and well-being for everyone. In order to realize better health and well-being it is critical that health care services – whether related to mental health, physical health, or substance abuse – are integrated at the point of delivery, actively involve patients as partners in their care, and are coordinated with a robust system of other community resources. To best serve individuals who are seeking care across Colorado communities, equal partnerships between healthcare systems have demonstrated impact on positive health outcomes.

As early adopters of the philosophy and practice of integrated care, Colorado's community behavioral health system has served as pioneers in integrated care and developed unique expertise. This system has navigated policy, funding, and cultural resistance and solved challenges related to integrated care and served as state and national leaders in this work. There is no one-size-fits-all model for integrating care. However, there are innovative approaches to integration happening across Colorado matched to the unique needs, resources, and diversity of our communities. Behavioral healthcare interventions have long demonstrated maximal potential for impact based on investment, and integrated care models benefit when they are built on an equal partnership between the systems involved. Collectively, we benefit from sharing our experiences, learning from each other, and committing to the relentless pursuit of setting the standard for excellent, integrated health care.

CBHC relentlessly pursues comprehensive models of care supported by the infrastructure, experience, and leadership needed to deliver quality, integrated care services across Colorado.

## **Policy Priorities**

### **21.1 Adequate Payment Models**

Mechanisms need to be in place in the public and private sectors to pay for the entire continuum of behavioral and physical health services in both physical and behavioral health settings. Adequate payment is necessary to support an integrated delivery system for both behavioral and physical health.

- ❖ CBHC supports policies that promote wise, evidence-informed, shared payment models for the promotion of integrated care in various settings.
  - Leveraging and protecting behavioral health funding in the community, as directed by community engagement and needs.
  - Payment and funding models that are outcomes and performance focused (e.g., capitated payments), for integrated models.
  - Payment models that allow for flexibility in sharing and that reward local partnerships and community-based care.

### **21.2 Integrated Workforce**

To meet the needs of an integrated service delivery system, the healthcare workforce needs to be expanded and trained to be prepared for diverse models of service delivery.

- ❖ CBHC supports policies and legislation that increase all healthcare workforce education and familiarity with integrated models of care.
  - Modifications to education and training curricula to focus on integrated care.
  - Updates to professional board policies that promote education on various models of integrated care.
  - Creation of training opportunities in integrated care settings.

### **21.3 Effective Technology and Health Information Exchanges**

Technology that can maximize various models of integrated care delivery is necessary to facilitate effective health information exchange and to enhance services that lead to high quality health outcomes.

- ❖ CBHC supports policies that promote and assist providers with the purchase, utilization, and updating of effective health information technology.
  - Timely, clinically effective, and fiscally efficient exchange of health information among various providers across a continuum of care.
  - Promotion of shared, or compatible, interfaces for effective sharing of information.

## **21.4 Coordinated Care Across Systems**

Locally organized healthcare services should be coordinated with a broader continuum of community-based services that meet the social determinants of health, with aligned outcomes and financing mechanisms.

- ❖ CBHC supports policies that align goals, organizational structures, and payment models across various systems of healthcare and other service delivery.
- ❖ CBHC supports the organization of healthcare systems that leverage an equal partnership between behavioral health and primary care organizations and providers to deliver services.

### **Effective Period**

The Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council (CBHC) Board of Directors approved this policy 01/18/2018. It is reviewed as required by the Public Policy Advisory Committee.

### **Policy Updated**

Updates to this policy position were approved by the CBHC Board of Directors on 01/18/2018.

**Expiration: 01/18/2020**