

About Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council

Since 1967, the Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council (CBHC) has served as the statewide membership association for Colorado's network of community behavioral health providers. CBHC members are the backbone of Colorado's public behavioral health safety net, working to ensure all Coloradans have access to quality, community-based services tailored to the unique needs and strengths of each community. CBHC members include:

17 Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs)

CMHCs partner with the state to provide a wide variety of behavioral health care and services to Coloradans living with behavioral health disorders and concerns.

4 Managed Service Organizations (MSOs)

MSOs manage provider networks that deliver the full continuum of substance use disorder treatment services to Coloradans living with addiction. These entities also manage federal block grant dollars administered by the Colorado Department of Human Services.

2 Specialty Clinics

The Asian Pacific Development Center and Servicios de la Raza provide culturally informed services.

Membership Impact

- CBHC members employ roughly 8,000 people across Colorado including clinicians, peers, and administrative and support staff.
- CMHCs provided direct services to 228,089 Coloradans in 2019.
- Beyond traditional outpatient therapy, CMHCs offer a wide range of individual, family, and community supports including intensive services, expert care management, prevention initiatives, and community resiliency programs.
- The MSOs contract with over 80 providers statewide to ensure a continuum of services for substance use disorder care.

For decades, CBHC's membership has proudly served as Colorado's safety net system for behavioral health. Our CMHCs are proud to serve their communities in primary care clinics, local school systems, law enforcement agencies, supportive housing units, and more. CMHCs have long been critical partners in preparing for, responding to, and helping communities recover from disasters, emergencies, and community tragedies.

Behavioral Health Services

Prevention	School and Early Childhood Services	Suicide Prevention	Public and Population Health Initiatives
Education	Awareness and Anti-Stigma Initiatives	Community Partnerships and Collaborations	Population-Specific Programs
Treatment	Crisis Services and Withdrawal Management	Crisis Management and Wrap-Around Services	Counseling, Therapy, and Psychiatric Care
Recovery	Sobriety and Health Maintenance	Community Supports and Connections	Peer Services and Supports
			Vocational and Housing Programs

Comprehensive behavioral health services include a full continuum of care and supports that promote well-being and good health for individuals and communities. CBHC members provide services that extend beyond traditional therapy and respond to their communities in a variety of ways.

CBHC 50 Years at a Glance

Prior to CBHC's creation in 1967, Colorado's CMHCs worked together to create a statewide behavioral health system where all Coloradans can easily find access to care within their communities. Over time, the CMHCs formalized their commitment to their joint work by creating the Colorado Association of Community Mental Health Centers and Clinics, which was later renamed the Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council. **CBHC's key activities and goals are multi-fold, including, but not limited to:**

- **Advocating on behalf of members** to ensure adequate funding and a regulatory environment that allows them to best support individuals and communities.
- **Facilitating meetings and creating opportunities** for members to share experiences, best practices, and opportunities to share knowledge and resources.
- **Organizing an annual conference** for members, stakeholders, representatives from state organizations, university students, and more.
- **Assisting members with systemic innovation** to ensure Colorado's CMHCs are equipped with state-of-the-art resources and program design.

From the very beginning, the CBHC membership held strongly to the value that each member is responsible for the success of the entire system, not just its own organization. To that end, CBHC depends on a high level of member engagement to develop a united front and to carry out uniform initiatives to create a behavioral health system second to none. **The CBHC infrastructure has led to several key outcomes over the years:**

- **A systemic vision has led to precedents of CBHC members supporting each other** and sharing resources to ensure the success of every center.
- **A community focus has maintained the value of CMHCs grassroots origins**, which were developed to meet specific community needs. CBHC continues Colorado's rich history of community involvement in behavioral health through the local community structure.
- An emphasis on **relationships with partners shaped the way CBHC represents the members** in the legislature, with state departments or contracts, and beyond.

Working in partnership with advocates, policymakers, and legislators, CBHC is incredibly proud of the work done through the years to continuously improve our state's behavioral health system. Below are a few recent legislative achievements that have moved Colorado's system forward:

2013

SB13-200: Expand Medicaid Eligibility. This bill expanded the availability of behavioral health services in Colorado. SB13-266: Coordinated Behavioral Health Crisis Response. This bill established Colorado's crisis system.

2016

SB16-202: Increasing Access Effective Substance Use Services. This bill created a new funding model to be managed by Colorado's four MSOs that was driven by community need.

2017

SB17-207: Strengthening Colorado's Statewide Response to Behavioral Health Crises. CBHC worked with lived experience and law enforcement partners to end the practice of allowing individuals experiencing a mental health emergency to be placed in jail.

2020

HB20-1411: COVID-19 Funds Allocation for Behavioral Health. CBHC led the advocacy effort to pass this bill that allocated \$15.2M in CARES Act funding to sustain and support behavioral health providers during the COVID-19 pandemic.