

2026 CBHC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONFERENCE



Meeting the Moment for Communities

September 30 - October 3, 2026

Beaver Run Resort & Conference Center | Breckenridge, Colorado

Ci Clinical Bd Board Bu Business/Upper Management

Wednesday September 30, 2026 CBHC Pre-Conference Workshops	
8:00am - 4:00pm 8:00am - 4:00pm	#1 Pre-Con Workshop Ci Bd Bu Behavioral Health Trainings: Building the Future of Prevention, Education, and Community Impact <i>See full description here</i> #2 Pre-Con Workshop Ci Bd Bu Meeting the Moment With AI: A Practical Playbook for Behavioral Health Leaders and Clinicians <i>Jonathan Liebert, MA</i>
Thursday October 1, 2026 CBHC Conference	
8:45am - 10:30am	Keynote & Mental Health First Aid Awards Ci Bd Bu Keynote Sponsored by NextGen Healthcare  Meeting the Moment: Moving Beyond Coping to Build Resilient, Connected Communities <i>Johnny Crowder, CRPS-Y /A</i>
10:30am - 11:00am	Coffee Break Visit the Exhibits & Sponsors in the Colorado Ballroom
11:00am - 12:00pm	#100 Bd Bu Keeping Coloradans Covered: Preventing Medicaid Coverage Loss Under HR1 <i>Liz Owens</i> #101 Bd Bu Bypassing a Bachelor's Degree: How Alternative Admissions to an MA Degree Can Revolutionize Workforce Development <i>Kevin Doyle, EdD, LPC LSATP & John Solomon, LPC</i> #102 Bu Beyond Compliance: How Actionable Data Supports Sustainable Behavioral Health Care <i>Dorota Carpenedo, MPH & Robyn Odendahl, MPA</i> #103 Ci Ghost Asylums: When Families Become the System for Psychotic Disorders <i>Kelly Comcowich, MA & Robin Predny, LPCC, MS, MA</i> #104 Ci Bd Elevating the Voices of People with Lived Experience <i>Latisha Quintana, LCSW; Jennifer Turner, MSW; Lottie Elliott, HS; Barbara Vassis; Tyler Himmelstieb</i> #105 Ci Bu Bridging Care and Community: Food Is Medicine in Behavioral Health <i>Mindy Klowden, MNM & Marti Macchi, DrPH, MPH, MEd</i> #106 Ci When Postpartum Risks Collide: Dyadic Considerations Around Perinatal Mental Health, Substance Use, and Intimate Partner Violence <i>Sarah Briley, MPH, CHES; Lauren Smith, BSSW; Sonia Subudhi Warwick, MD, MPH</i>
12:00pm - 1:30pm	Lunch/Meetings Attendees Lunch CCBHC; Data & Technology (CIO); MarComms Meeting (Invitation Only)
1:30pm - 3:00pm	#200 Ci A Perfect Storm: Why Trauma, Neuroscience, and Attachment are Fundamental Elements for Understanding the Science of Addiction <i>Meredith Buschart, MSW, LCSW & Anne Hellstrom, MEd, LPC</i> #201 Ci Bu Gettin' By: How Poverty Changes the Brain, Which Changes Everything <i>Linda Riddell, MS</i> #202 Bd Bu Safety Net Merger Experiences: From Concept to Reality in a Changing Environment <i>Jania Arnoldi, DHA, MBA & Simon Smith, MHA</i> #203 Ci Bu Reimagining Youth Crisis Care: Key Takeaways from Implementation of the Youth Crisis Resolution Team in Weld County <i>Zhaelin Cruz, MSW; Natoshia Murray, LPCC; Samantha Santy, LCSW; Lyza Verosky, LCSW</i> #204 Ci Bu For Everyone Who Takes Care of Everyone Else: Accessing Your Own Tools <i>Kat Atwell</i> #205 Bd Division of Fire and Prevention and the World of BHE's <i>Pete Anderson, FI-III, CLSS-HC & Craig Montoya, FI-III</i> #206 Ci Bd Bu From the Capitol to the Community: CBHC Budget and Policy Updates for 2026 <i>Frank Cornelia, MS, LPC; Veronica Bell, MPPA; Karen Wick, MPP; Gilbert Romero, JD</i>
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Coffee Break Visit the Exhibits & Sponsors in the Colorado Ballroom
3:30pm - 5:00pm	#300 Ci Bd Bu General Session HCPF & BHA Panel Meeting the Moment: A State Perspective on Youth and Family Systems of Care <i>Stephanie Beasley, MSW, BHA Commissioner & Gretchen Hammer, HCPF Executive Director</i> #301 Ci Bu Side-by-Side: A Blueprint for Seamless CMHC and School Integration in Times of Crisis <i>Mary Alex Dill, LCSW & Alison Harris, PhD, LPC</i> #302 Ci Bu Scaling Dyadic Solutions: A Roadmap for Sustainable Family Interventions in Colorado <i>Melissa Buchholz, PsyD; Anna Marie Neal, LSW; Julia L. Roguski, MA, LPC, CAC III; Jennifer Sommer Sheppard, LCSW, IMH-E</i> #303 Ci Technology, Social Media, and Antisocial Behavior in High-Risk Youth: Strategies to Strengthen Caregiver Control and Reduce Risk <i>Dana Garofalini, LMHC, LPC & Suzanne Kerns, PhD</i> #304 Ci Bu SMI Barriers and Transitions: Collaboration Overcoming Complexity <i>Owen Love, MHA, MA, LPC, LAC, ACS & Bonnie Wright, MBA, MS</i> #305 Bd Bu Advancing Quality Through Measurement-Based Care: A Real-World Implementation Journey <i>Cathie McLean, MA, LPC, CAS & Mike Braithwaite</i> #306 Ci The Transformative Impact of Peer Support on Reducing Suicidality <i>Megan Bettenberg, MA, LPC & Marchell Taylor</i>
5:15pm - 6:30pm	Networking Reception Ci Bd Bu For all attendees (Colorado Ballroom) <i>Sponsored by Mile High Behavioral Healthcare & Bristol Myers Squibb</i>
Friday October 2, 2026	
8:45am - 10:30am	Keynote & Golden Abacus/Golden Lightbulb Awards & CBHC Behavioral Health Legislative Champion Awards Ci Bd Bu Adaptive Leadership in Complex and Uncertain Times: The Power of Mindset and Resilience <i>Amer Kaissi, PhD</i>
10:30am - 11:00am	Coffee Break Visit the Exhibits & Sponsors in the Colorado Ballroom
11:00am - 12:00pm	#400 Ci Bu Lessons Learned: 5 Years of Providing the Full SUD Continuum of Care <i>Jennifer Holcomb</i> #401 Bd Bu Universal Adoption of Outcome Tools <i>Lindsay Gries, PsyD</i> #402 Ci Bu Embracing AI in Clinical Training: One Counseling Program's Approach to Using AI for Good in Clinical Skill Development <i>Jane Flournoy, PhD, LMFT, LPC, LAC; Liz Catbagan, BA; Britt Feia, BA; Benjamin Keller, BA</i> #403 Bd Bu Fulfilling a Century-Old Promise: The Integration of Housing and Behavioral Healthcare <i>Evan Caster & Tyler Jaeckel, JD, MPP</i> #404 Bu Bd Community Engagement from Assessment to Presence <i>Biko Bloom-Fisher, MS</i> #405 Bd Bu Promoting Parity Through Data: What Transparency in Coverage Means for Colorado Behavioral Health Providers <i>Mindy Klowden, MNM</i>
12:00pm - 1:30pm	Lunch/Meetings Attendees Deputy Directors; CBHC Member CFO/Finance & Budget (Invitation Only)
12:00pm - 12:30pm 12:30pm - 1:30pm	CBHC & Membership Org Board Members Only Half-Day Event (Imperial Ballroom) Bd Annual CBHC Board Meeting Bd CBHC Board Awards Ceremony & Lunch
1:30pm - 3:00pm	#500 Bd Bu Colorado System of Care: Where Are We Now? <i>Stacey Davis, LCSW; Perry May; Mary Kay Meintzer, LPC, LAC, ACS; Marc Winokur, PhD; Kelli Reidford, LCSW; Jenn Conrad, LCSW, CCM; Annie Siasny, MFT; Amanda Berger, MSW, LCSW</i> #501 Bu Bd From AI Chaos to Trust: Enterprise Governance for Colorado Behavioral Health Innovation <i>Brandon Ward, PsyD</i> #502 Bd Bu When Reform Meets Reality: Practical Lessons from Colorado's Behavioral Health Overhaul <i>Gina Lasky, PhD; Shannon Breitzman, MA; Angela Bergefurd, MPA</i> #503 Bd Bu CANCELED Embracing the Shift: Tools for Reducing Tension and Increasing Performance Across Four Generations #504 Ci Leading the Way Home: Integrated Health Services and Wraparound Supports for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness <i>Anna Shapiro, MD; Amanda Smith, LCSW; Roberta Sturgeon; Allison Ulness</i> #505 Bd Ci BHA Panel Operationalizing Colorado for ALL: A Unified Approach to Behavioral Health Access <i>Meghan Shelton, LPC; Marque Green, MS; Elizabeth "Liz" Thomas; Alyssa Hetschel, LCSW, LAC; Marc Condojani, LCSW, CAS</i>
1:30pm - 3:00pm 3:00pm - 3:30pm	#506 Bd CBHC & Membership Org Board Members Only Session (Imperial Ballroom) Bd Federal Policy in Motion: HR1, Medicaid Budget Pressures and Work Requirements in Colorado's Behavioral Health System Bd Panel Presentations <i>Cristen Bates, MPH; Liz Owens; Kari Snelson, LCSW, CHC</i> Bd Facilitated Discussion
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Coffee Break Visit the Exhibits & Sponsors in the Colorado Ballroom
3:30pm - 4:30pm	#600 Bu CCBHC and PPS in Practice: A Colorado Perspective <i>Melissa Eddleman, MSW, LCSW, MPA; Steven Ihde, MS, PhD; Carly Donohue-Torres</i> #601 Bu The AI Shift: How Patients Find Behavioral Healthcare Now <i>Timothy, A. Zercher, MBA</i> #602 Bu Ci Do as I Say, Not as I Do? Applying Behavioral Health's Expertise to Support the Workforce <i>Cheri L. Skelding, LCSW & Brandon Wilcox</i> #603 Ci Microdosing Psychedelics in Clinical Practice: A Holistic Framework for Mental Health Integration <i>Jessica Eden, LCSW, LAC, ADS-RT, NMIT</i> #604 Bd Bu Beyond Alignment: Practical Strategies for Behavioral Health–Public Health Collaboration <i>Shannon Breitzman, MA; Angela Bergefurd, MPA; Robyn Odendahl, MPA</i> #605 Bu Ci Everything Under One Roof: Practical Lessons in Building Integrated Behavioral Health Care <i>Allison Pokrzywa, PA-C, MPH & Briana Tillman, DO, MEd</i>
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Bd CBHC & Membership Org Board Members Only Reception (Imperial Ballroom)
Saturday October 3, 2026	
8:00am - 11:00am (15-minute break)	#700 Ci Bd Bu ALIGN to Thrive: A Human-Centered, Measurable Approach to Change for Behavioral Health Teams <i>Steven Haden, MSW, MBA, CPRP</i> #701 Ci Trauma, Oppression, and Audism: Clinical Implications for Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing Communities <i>Paula DuPont, LCSW & Marja Possner</i> #702 Bd Bu From Badge to Behavioral Health: Building Colorado's Crisis Response System in Real Time <i>Gordon R. Coombes, MA</i>

Register Now: [Click here](#) | Full program available online only this year at www.cbhc.org | Beaver Run Resort Hotel: [Click here](#)

\$60 | #1 Pre-Conference | (Wed Only) | **Behavioral Health Trainings Workshop | Building the Future of Prevention, Education, and Community Impact**

\$170 | #2 Pre-Conference | (Wed Only) | **Meeting the Moment With AI: A Practical Playbook for Behavioral Health Leaders and Clinicians**

(Wednesday workshops include all day training session, breakfast, lunch & coffee breaks)

\$500 | Full Conference | (Thur, Fri & Sat) | **Full Conference** (Includes Thursday, Friday, Saturday sessions, networking reception, breakfasts, lunches & coffee breaks)

\$560 | #1 PreCon + Full Conference | (Wed, Thur, Fri & Sat) | (Includes Wednesday workshop, and full conference sessions, networking reception, breakfasts, lunches & coffee breaks)

\$670 | #2 PreCon + Full Conference | (Wed, Thur, Fri & Sat) | (Includes Wednesday workshop, and full conference sessions, networking reception, breakfasts, lunches & coffee breaks)

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