

# 2026 CERTIFIED COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINIC PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

## **Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Program Standards**

A Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) is a form of provider within the U.S., established by the Excellence in Mental Health Act. CCBHCs are designed to provide whole-person care by integrating physical health with a comprehensive range of mental health and substance use disorder services to vulnerable individuals. Whole-person care means considering all aspects of a person's health, including their physical, mental, and behavioral health, as well as their socioeconomic status, housing situation, and other social determinants of health, which can exacerbate health issues.

CCBHCs offer nine types of services, including:

- Crisis mental health services
- Screening, assessment, and diagnosis
- Person-centered treatment planning
- Outpatient mental health and substance use services
- Outpatient clinic primary care screening and monitoring
- Targeted case management
- Psychiatric rehabilitation services
- Peer support, counselor services, and family supports
- Intensive, community-based mental health care to persons served (includes members of the armed forces and Veterans)

Services must be person-centered and family-centered, trauma-informed, and recovery-oriented. In addition, CCBHCs are required to expand service hours, provide timely access for routine needs, provide daily 24-hour access to crisis management services, provide services beyond the walls of the clinic (for example, in clients' homes and elsewhere in the community), and maintain partnerships with a range of health and social service providers to facilitate referrals and care coordination. CCBHCs can partner with Designated Collaborating Organizations (DCOs) to provide some of the required services. DCOs are entities that are not directly supervised by a CCBHC but have a formal relationship with a CCBHC to provide specified services. CCBHCs that engage DCOs maintain clinical responsibility for services the DCO provides to CCBHC clients.