

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) Demonstration Program

The New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) was one of 24 states awarded a CCBHC Planning Grant by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS). The purpose of this program was to support states to certify clinics as certified community behavioral health clinics, establish prospective payment systems for Medicaid reimbursable services, and prepare an application to participate in a two-year demonstration program.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the selection of eight states, which included New Jersey, for participation in the two-year Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) demonstration program designed to improve behavioral health services in their communities. This demonstration is part of a comprehensive effort to integrate behavioral health with physical health care, increase consistent use of evidence-based practices, and improve access to high quality care for people with mental and substance use disorders.

Under the program, selected states will be reimbursed through Medicaid for behavioral health treatment, services, and supports to Medicaid-eligible beneficiaries using an approved prospective payment system. To qualify for certification, CCBHCs provide core services across the lifespan, utilize evidence-based practices and health information technology, report on quality measures, and coordinate care with primary care providers and hospitals in the community. Populations to be served are adults with serious mental illness, children with serious emotional disturbance, and those with long term and serious substance use disorders, as well as others with mental illness and substance use disorders.

There are 7 agencies participating in New Jersey. They are dually-licensed to provide both mental health and substance use disorder treatment. The CCBHC program started on July 1, 2017.

New Jersey has selected two goals to achieve:

Goal 1: Provide the most complete scope of services required in the CCBHC Criteria to individuals who are eligible for medical assistance under the state Medicaid program

Goal 2: Improve availability of, access to, and participation in, services to individuals eligible for medical assistance under the State Medicaid program.