

## Behavioral health: New resources for the opioid crisis, expanding a successful model of care, mental health for kids

Significant investments in the 2019 session will make the behavioral health system more sustainable and fill gaps, while new resources will help Minnesota respond more effectively to behavioral health needs statewide.

The state will continue to build on the success of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics, expanding the number of one-stop shops that combine mental health care and substance use disorder services. Changes to the behavioral health care funding structure will bring in more federal money, while reducing the financial burden on counties and making services more readily available when people leave residential treatment.

Other investments will expand the state's capacity to serve children who need intensive mental health care and give more children access to school-linked mental health services. A new opioid fee will raise money to improve and expand opioid treatment and prevention services, reducing the burden of the crisis and expanding access to culturally specific care for disproportionately affected tribal communities.

### 2019 legislation

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**Opioid crisis, prevention and treatment.** The new Opioid Stewardship Fee will raise funds for treatment and recovery, with an advisory council developing a comprehensive statewide effort to address the opioid crisis in Minnesota. Increased use of an effective screening tool will reduce barriers to timely access to treatment service. Grants to tribal nations and five urban American Indian communities will address chronic disparities by supporting culturally specific traditional healing services, benefiting American Indian communities across Minnesota. Other activities funded include overdose prevention and Project Echo, which links treatment experts with primary care providers. *FY 2020-21: \$41.9 million (includes other agencies).*

**Reform funding for behavioral health care continuum.** Changes to the payment system will help the state capture more federal matching funds and increase transparency of the funding for behavioral health services. Counties will no longer pay a share of the cost of substance use disorder treatment for Medical Assistance, eliminating a disincentive to enroll people in health care coverage. Disparities in room and board rates between mental health and substance use disorder treatment providers will be eliminated. Housing support will be available to more people leaving residential treatment. *FY 2020-21: savings of \$18 million*

**Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics.** A new model of community-based care for mental health and substance use disorder services, Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) will transition from a demonstration project to a traditional Medicaid benefit. Early results from the demonstration in Minnesota and seven other states have shown better access to care, shorter wait times, better coordination and greater

capacity to meet individual needs. CCBHCs will become an ongoing service model, allowing six current sites in the state to continue and expanding to add five new providers in the next four years. *FY 2020-21: \$4.7 million.*

**School-linked mental health grants.** More Minnesota children and youth will have access to school-linked mental health services, which improve access to treatment, engagement in treatment, and care coordination. School-linked services are often the first to identify children with serious mental health needs, and provide many students of color their first access to mental health services. *FY 2020-21: \$1.2 million.*

**Children's residential mental health facilities.** Ongoing state funding will provide continuity of care for children receiving care in residential facilities affected by a change in federal rules. The change affects funding for facilities determined to be institutions for mental disease, or IMDs, by the federal government. Expanded capacity for Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities will give more children, including those on a growing wait list, access to intensive mental health care. The state will support new Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities with start-up funding. *FY 2020-21: \$7.9 million.*

## Related information

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- [DHS 2019 session fact sheets](#)

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