



Office of
Mental Health

CMHS Block Grant and Enhanced FMAP Opportunities

Regional Stakeholder Feedback Meeting

Today's Stakeholder Meeting

The Office of Mental Health (OMH) will present an overview of expanded federal funding, current programmatic priorities, and receive stakeholder feedback.

- Today's meeting is being recorded and the feedback received will be used to inform OMH's planning activities around new federal funding.
- Participants wishing to speak must select the "hand raise" 🙋 button located on the right side of their screen. Once we move to the feedback portion of each topical section, individuals will be announced and unmuted.
- Feedback will also be taken in the chat box by directing comments "To: All Panelists."
- To maximize stakeholder participation, we are asking that all participants limit their spoken comments to three minutes. OMH will seek to divide the time for feedback evenly across each topical section. If we need to move onto another topic due to time constraints and there are people still waiting to provide feedback, we will revisit each topic if time allows.
- Feedback may also be provided in writing at transformation@omh.ny.gov.

Topical Presentations and Feedback

OMH is requesting feedback on the following topics, in addition to any priorities identified by stakeholders. After a brief overview of the federal funding, these topics will be presented in the following order and feedback taken after each presentation.

1. Crisis Services
2. Children's Services
3. Ambulatory Services

Federal Funding Overview

OMH 2021-22 Budget and New Federal Funding

The New York State Office of Mental Health's (OMH) 2021-22 budget includes multiple federal resources that present opportunities for investments in the community mental health system.

Two Immediate Resources for Potential Investments

- Community Mental Health Services (CMHS) Block Grant Supplements
- Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) Rate Increase for Home and Community Based and Rehabilitation Services

OMH is engaging with all stakeholders to determine priorities and strategies for utilizing the current awards, as well as a future award expected under the American Rescue Plan Act.

CMHS Block Grant Supplemental Funding

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) of 2021 provides \$825 million to states for expansion of the Community Mental Health Services (CMHS) Block Grant. In addition, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 provides for an additional \$1.5 billion expansion of the CMHS Block Grant.

- OMH received notification of award for supplementary CMHS block grant funding related to the CRRSAA on March 11, 2021, for \$46.3 million for the period of March 15, 2021 to March 2023. The notice indicated Federal funds must be used in accordance with standard CMHS program requirements.
- Notice of awards related to the American Rescue Plan Act funding have not been issued yet. These funds shall be expended by September 30, 2025.
- OMH expects that there may also be direct SAMHSA awards to providers. OMH will monitor and provide updates regarding any such opportunities to all community stakeholders.

CMHS Block Grant Mechanics

The CMHS Block Grant funds have requirements related to authorized activities, set-asides, limitations, and reporting, which also apply to the supplemental awards.

- Traditional Target Populations/Authorized Activities: Funds restricted to community mental health services for adults with SMI or children with SED.
- Standard Set-Asides Apply: Children's services, first episode psychosis programs and crisis services.
- Restrictions: States are NOT permitted to spend the funds on inpatient, residential services, capital infrastructure nor provider losses.
- Reporting: The State is required to report on the manner and programming for which all funds were expended and the recipients of grant funds.

Enhanced FMAP for HCBS and Rehab Services

The 2021-22 OMH Budget also includes appropriations for enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) of 10% for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) and Rehabilitation Services, for one year, beginning April 1, 2021 and ending March 31, 2022.

- States are awaiting CMS guidance to explain how this will work and the specifics of any mechanics for these one-time funds.
- OMH is interested in feedback and ideas on one-time investments that will strengthen and improve HCBS and rehabilitation services in New York State.

Crisis Services



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Elements of a Comprehensive Crisis Response System for Children, Adolescents and Adults

Services

- 988-Single Point of Access
- Mobile Crisis Services
- Crisis Residences
- Crisis Stabilization Center – BH Urgent Care
- Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Programs/Emergency Rooms
- Community treatment and community services

Coordination

- Workforce
- Follow up services
- Integration and expansion of peers in service delivery
- “Care traffic control’ capability
- Cultural competence and racial equity
- Access to services
- Collaboration with law enforcement

Services + Coordination = System

Questions to Help Inform OMH's Planning for Crisis Services

- What existing resources are working well to meet the behavioral health crisis response needs of your community? How could they be improved?
- What gaps do you see in meeting the behavioral health crisis response needs of your community?
- What unique challenges and/or strengths should be taken into account in planning for behavioral health crisis response in your region and statewide?

Children's Services



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Goals of Enhanced Services for Children, Youth and Families

- Prevention of mental health challenges across the lifespan and investing in programs which support the early identification and intervention of emotional disorders and mental illnesses, including the expansion of Youth ACT and first episode psychosis treatment.
- Addressing and preventing mental health challenges for children, youth, and families caused by the traumatic impact of COVID-19, including rehabilitation and peer support services, school-based interventions, home and community-based services and crisis intervention.
- Developing a comprehensive crisis services array, including crisis residences, directed to children and families within a coordinated system of care, which includes all other child-serving systems, such as schools, child welfare, and juvenile justice.

Priorities for Children's Services

- Start-up and expansion of Youth ACT Teams
- Support for Enhanced Children's Community Residence
- Development and enhancement of emergency and crisis response, including peer services and crisis residence
- Expansion of first episode psychosis programs
- Workforce Growth & Retention
- Technology/telehealth infrastructure
- Enhancement of HCBS and CFTSS, including Family & Youth Peer Support Services
- Support of "Children's Health Home Plus" and expansion of High-Fidelity Wraparound
- Enhancement of school-based screening, supports, and services
- Training in effective treatment models and evidence-based practices

Questions to Help Inform OMH's Planning for Children's Services

- Are the identified priorities consistent with the needs that you see?
- Are there any opportunities that are being missed?
- What considerations or recommendations do you have about approaching these priority areas?
- What outcomes should we measure to ensure that new and enhanced services are meeting child/family needs?
- What considerations or recommendations do you have to ensure culturally competent and responsive design?

Ambulatory Services

Ambulatory System Redesign

OMH wants New York's mental health system to better advance a culturally competent, ambulatory network of recovery-oriented treatment and support services that meet children, adults and families when, where, and how they need it most, and includes the integrated delivery of substance use disorder and physical health treatments.

Potential Strategies for Ambulatory Redesign

- Telehealth investments
- Workforce recruitment and retention
- Expansion of peer-delivered services
- Mobile clinic expansion
- Substance Use Disorder and Primary Care integration
- Reimagined rehabilitation services
- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics
- Improved Assertive Community Treatment models
- Creating closer linkages between ambulatory, residential, and inpatient care providers, and the comprehensive crisis system

Questions to Help Inform OMH's Planning for Ambulatory Services

- OMH wants to foster better connectivity, communication, and continuity of care among the various areas of the behavioral health system such as clinics, residential programs, inpatient programs, crisis services, etc. **What barriers or challenges currently exist? What ideas do you have to improve connectivity, communication, and continuity of care?**
- OMH wants to encourage the integration of physical health and substance use disorder treatment within the mental health system. **What barriers or challenges have you experienced in planning or implementing integrated care? What supports do you need to improve integrated care?**
- OMH is excited about the possibilities presented by the expansion of telehealth which occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. We think telehealth can improve access to care and foster improved engagement between recipients and providers. However, we also are concerned about striking the proper balance between telehealth and in-person care to meet individuals' preferences, as well as the clinical needs of high-risk individuals. **How would you propose we promote this balance in the behavioral health system post-COVID?**

Thank you for your feedback!

If you have any additional comments for OMH, please send via email:

transformation@omh.ny.gov

