The Role of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics in Crisis Services and Systems

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There is a powerful movement underway to make sure that everyone can get the help they need when they're experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis. This vision of a nationwide behavioral health crisis system is critical to improving the well-being of our nation and ensuring everyone can thrive.

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) are a powerful resource for making this vision a reality. CCBHCs play a crucial role in the crisis system, assessing community needs, providing direct services, contributing to planning activities and actively partnering in local crisis system collaboration and coordination.

To help communities build a robust crisis system, the National Council for Mental Wellbeing's Medical Director Institute released a white paper on maximizing the effectiveness of CCBHCs in crisis services and systems. It provides guidance to:

- Help CCBHC grantees, their service partners, and state and local policymakers understand and meet the basic CCBHC requirements for crisis services.
- Help current and emerging CCBHC leadership and staff — and their state and local policymakers — understand how to use prospective payment methodologies and CCBHC standards to maximize the effectiveness of crisis systems.
- Help implementation planners, system managers and policymakers use CCBHCs to meet their communities' needs for customized crisis systems.

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