



Minnesota Association of Community Mental Health Programs

Honorable Representative Tina Liebling
Chair, Health & Human Services Finance Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
December 8, 2020

Dear Madame Chair and Committee Members

On behalf of the Minnesota Association of Community Mental Health Programs (MACMHP), I am writing to support Representative Bierman's legislation (20-9350-Bierman) - CCBHC reimbursement.

Minnesota Community Mental Health Programs' Perspective

MN Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) are part of a new model of delivering integrated behavioral health care to Minnesotans. Originally built under a federal demonstration the CCBHC model is moving into being a benefit under Medical Assistance. CCBHCs are designed to a "one stop shop" for clients to receive comprehensive, coordinated community-based behavioral health service array. This is opposed to having to navigate the complexities of our current system, being handled by multiple referrals, wait lists and authorizations. There are eight certified community behavioral health clinics participating in Minnesota's integrated model.

- Northwestern Mental Health Center, Crookston
- Northern Pines Mental Health Center, Brainerd
- Wilder Foundation, Saint Paul
- People Incorporated, Mendota Heights
- Ramsey County Mental Health Center, Saint Paul
- Zumbro Valley Health Center, Rochester
- Human Development Center, Duluth
- Western Mental Health Center, Marshall

As the state's CCBHC model is moving into the state plan authority from the federal demonstration authority and funding, delays in implementation and federal approval required the state of Minnesota to implement a secondary plan to ensure clinics are fully reimbursed for the services they provide under this integrated model, beginning with services delivered on October 1st.

To implement this new plan, the state needs a change to our state authority to implement fee-for-service payments while CMS is reviewing our state plan amendment. This legislation provides this interim authority.

Thank you for your leadership in addressing this critical issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jin Lee Palen".

Jin Lee Palen

Executive Director

Minnesota Association of Community Mental Health Programs | MACMHP