

CMHP Role in the BH System Continuum of Care

Cherryl Ramirez

Executive Director, Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs

Mission

To advocate for the strengthening of local systems of care through partnership with local mental health authorities, community stakeholders, and state departments, ensuring equitable, effective and humane responses to improve the lives of people in our communities with mental illness, substance use disorders and intellectual and developmental disabilities, and their families.



Statutory Framework

Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS 430.610) direct OHA to assist county governments in establishing and developing community mental health and developmental disabilities programs and establish Counties, Regions or Tribes as the Local Mental Health Authority.



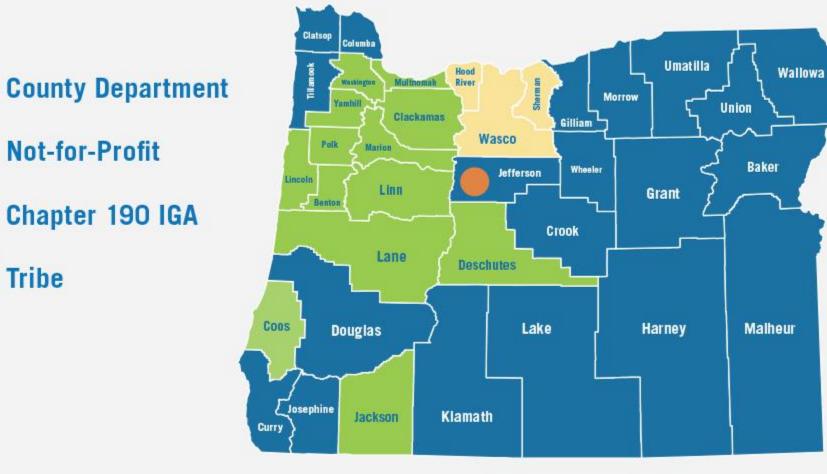
Local Mental Health Authority Governance

County Commissioners and Judges are the Local Mental Health Authority (LMHA) for the CMHPs in their counties*

The LMHA appoints a Mental Health Director and designates the Community Mental Health Program

*Douglas, Curry, Wallowa and Klamath counties are exceptions

Service Delivery Structure of Community Mental Health Programs:



CMHP Safety Net = Lifesaving Services



The Community Mental Health Program (CMHP) is the safety net entity that stands in the gap between hospital level of care and the community.

- CMHP works to reverse trends towards incarceration and homelessness for those with serious mental illness.
- CMHP works to address chronic conditions and reduce risk of early death.
- CMHP works upstream to reduce cost of higher levels of care.
- CMHP works with individuals who cannot or will not be served by other providers.

What Does it Mean to be the Safety Net?

- We serve everyone who is Medicaid eligible, un-insured or under-insured.
- We serve all people with crisis and acute needs regardless of coverage.
- We provide the full span of statutorily required services.
- We serve any individual who cannot be served elsewhere.
- We must serve everyone within 24 hours or seven days, depending upon need.



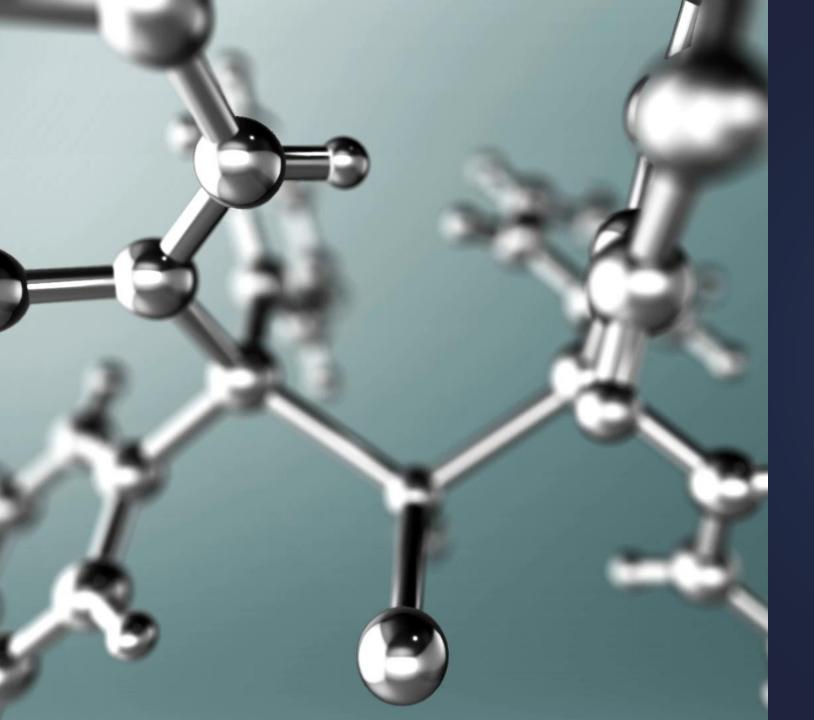
We do all of this without ever closing our front door.

CMHPs provide and manage an array of services



CMHP Responsibilities





Examples of Aid & Assist successes and challenges

How significant are the BH workforce gaps in CMHPs? Why?

STATEWIDE TOTALS	Crisis	Residential	Intensive/ Forensic	Outpatient	Child/ Family	Total Vacancies
QMHPs (unlicensed						
and licensed)	57.5	8.0	36.5	68.5	78.0	248.5
Clinical						
Managers/Supervisors	10.0	7.0	9.0	23.0	12.0	61.0
QMHAs	22.0	42.5	25.5	26.0	31.0	147.0
CADCs (not combined						
with Ps or As)	4.0	6.0	5.0	22.5	4.5	42.0
Peer Support						
Specialists (any						
specialty)	15.5	6.0	12.0	28.0	19.0	80.5
Psychiatrists or Nurse						
Practitioners (LMPs)	0.5	0.5	1.0	21.5	5.6	29.1
Nurses	0.0	9.0	6.0	11.5	0.5	27.0
STATEWIDE TOTAL	109.5	79.0	95.0	201.0	150.6	635.1

- Higher pay •
- Better time off (summers, • holiday breaks)
- Less administrative burden • (a fraction of the 'paperwork', fewer audits and reports)
- Easier work •
- 100% telehealth options
- No working nights and • weekends or on call
- Personal health issues
- Burn out due to system • barriers
- Moves to areas where there are more opportunities for themselves, spouse or partner, and for family

CMHP Response to COVID - Prioritizing Marginalized and Underserved Populations

CMHPs have always been on the front lines of serving marginalized populations The COVID-19 crisis has magnified the need for all services, including cultural/language specific care

Infrastructure gaps and health disparities among populations have become more apparent



Some bright spots

Prevention and Early Intervention

Population-based MH Promotion, Suicide Prevention, and Training



Our Future:

RAPID ENGAGEMENT'S VISION

Community members quickly and easily access behavioral health services when and where they need them.

SIMPLE

Reduce paperwork so it's simple to get started.

RE

MEANINGFUL

The first interactions are shaped around understanding client priorities and responding to their needs.

RESPONSIVE

Meet people where they are and offer flexible, trauma-informed, culturally-responsive, and team-based care.

Certified Community BH Clinics

Scope includes:

• **Crisis mental health services** including 24hour mobile crisis teams, emergency crisis intervention and crisis stabilization

- Screening, assessment and diagnosis
- Patient-centered treatment planning
- Outpatient mental health and substance
 use services
- **Primary care** screening and monitoring.
- Targeted case-management
- Psychiatric rehabilitation services
- Peer support, counseling services, and family support services

To Save Lives

- Reduce mortality
- Reduce substance use
- Reduce hospitalization
- Reduce incarceration
- Reduce homelessness