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Alaska Selected for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Medicaid Demonstration Program

June 1, 2026, **JUNEAU, Alaska** — The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, has selected Alaska as one of 10 states to participate in the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Medicaid Demonstration Program.

The program expands access to sustainable Medicaid funding to support comprehensive mental health and substance use disorder services. The demonstration is designed to strengthen coordinated, person-centered care and increase access to timely behavioral health services statewide.

“This milestone reflects the dedication of providers, partners, advocates, and communities across Alaska who have worked together to strengthen behavioral health services,” said Jenn Carson, director of the Alaska Division of Behavioral Health. “We are grateful for their collaboration and look forward to continuing this work to ensure Alaskans can access the care and support they need, when and where they need it.”

During the program’s one-year planning phase, Alaska certified two participating providers: Alaska Behavioral Health in Fairbanks and JAMHI Health & Wellness in Juneau. The state also developed a Medicaid prospective payment system and implementation plan for the four-year demonstration period.

The demonstration will allow Alaska to continue expanding the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic model, which provides 24-hour crisis response, timely outpatient care and a full continuum of behavioral health and recovery services while meeting national standards for care quality and coordination.

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics are required to provide 24-hour crisis services, timely access to outpatient care and a comprehensive range of behavioral health services. Clinics must use evidence-based practices informed by community needs assessments and serve anyone seeking mental health or substance use disorder treatment, regardless of ability to pay, residence or age. Services also must include developmentally appropriate care for children and youth.

Parties interested in becoming a CCBHC should reach out to anastasia.larion@alaska.gov. For more information about the Department of Health, visit health.alaska.gov

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