



**Certified Behavioral Health Clinic Planning Grant  
Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council  
July 8, 2026**

# AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Presentation on CCBHC Model and Connecticut's Planning Grant
3. Discussion
4. Identifying Next Steps



# Connecticut BHP

Supporting Health and Recovery



Fatmata Williams  
[Fatmata.Williams@ct.gov](mailto:Fatmata.Williams@ct.gov)  
Caroline Anyzeski  
[Caroline.Anyzeski@ct.gov](mailto:Caroline.Anyzeski@ct.gov)



Stephney Springer  
[Stephney.Springer@ct.gov](mailto:Stephney.Springer@ct.gov)  
Lois Berkowitz  
[Lois.Berkowitz@ct.gov](mailto:Lois.Berkowitz@ct.gov)



Robert Haswell  
[Robert.Haswell@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.Haswell@ct.gov)  
Mark Vanacore  
[Mark.Vanacore@ct.gov](mailto:Mark.Vanacore@ct.gov)



# **What is a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC)?**

# WHAT IS A CERTIFIED COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINIC (CCBHC)?



# What is a Certified Community Behavioral Health Center?

CCBHCs provide:

- Comprehensive, coordinated mental health and substance use services appropriate for individuals across the life span
- Increased access to high-quality community mental health and substance use care, including crisis care
- Integrated person- and family-centered services, driven by the needs and preferences of people receiving services and their families
- A range of evidence-based practices, services, and supports to meet the needs of their communities
- Services to anyone seeking help for a mental health or substance use condition, regardless of their diagnosis, place of residence, or ability to pay.



Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Certified Community Behavioral Health Center (CCBHC) Certification Criteria. Published February 2023. Accessed 1/20/2026 at Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) | SAMHSA

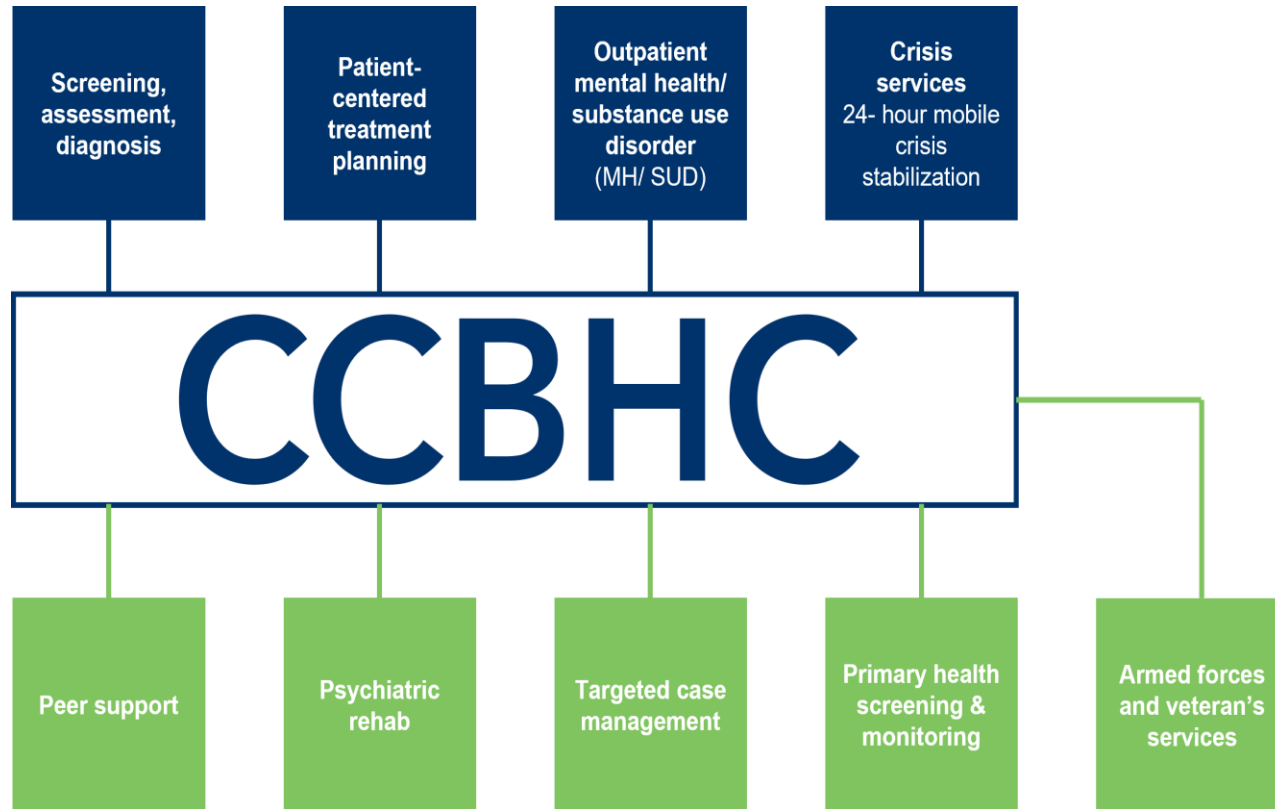


# CCBHC PRIMARY GOALS



1. Expand access to care
2. Integrate care/provide whole person care
3. Improve the quality of care
4. Improve outcomes of care
5. Support sustainability and workforce development

# CCBHC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS



1. Crisis services
2. Outpatient mental health and substance use services
3. Person- and family-centered treatment planning
4. Community-based mental health care for veterans
5. Peer family support and counselor services
6. Targeted case management
7. Outpatient primary care screening and monitoring
8. Psychiatric rehabilitation services
9. Screening, diagnosis and risk assessment

# CCBHC PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT SYSTEM

CCBHCs in the Medicaid demonstration are paid using a prospective payment system, or PPS. PPS supports clinics' costs of expanding services and increasing the number of clients they serve, while improving clinics' flexibility to deliver client-centered care.

| Typical Medicaid Payment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | CCBHC PPS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Typically, provider payment is determined by statewide fee schedules outlining a set rate for each particular unit of service. Historically, these rates have not been sufficient to cover mental health and substance use clinics' costs of delivering care. This leaves clinics scrambling to keep their doors open and limits their ability to invest in innovative approaches outside the fee-for-service structure.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•CCBHCs receive a single payment each day (or month) a client receives services, set at a level calculated to cover the clinic's anticipated costs of delivering care throughout the year. Each CCBHC has a unique payment rate based on its own care delivery and population served. The encounter-based rate structure allows flexibility in care delivery and supports innovative approaches aligned with clients' needs.</li></ul> |

Source: National Council for Mental Wellbeing. CCBHC Prospective Payment Cheat Sheet. March 14, 2023. Available online at [CCBHCs and the Prospective Payment System](#). Accessed January 20, 2026.

# Connecticut's CCBHC Planning Grant

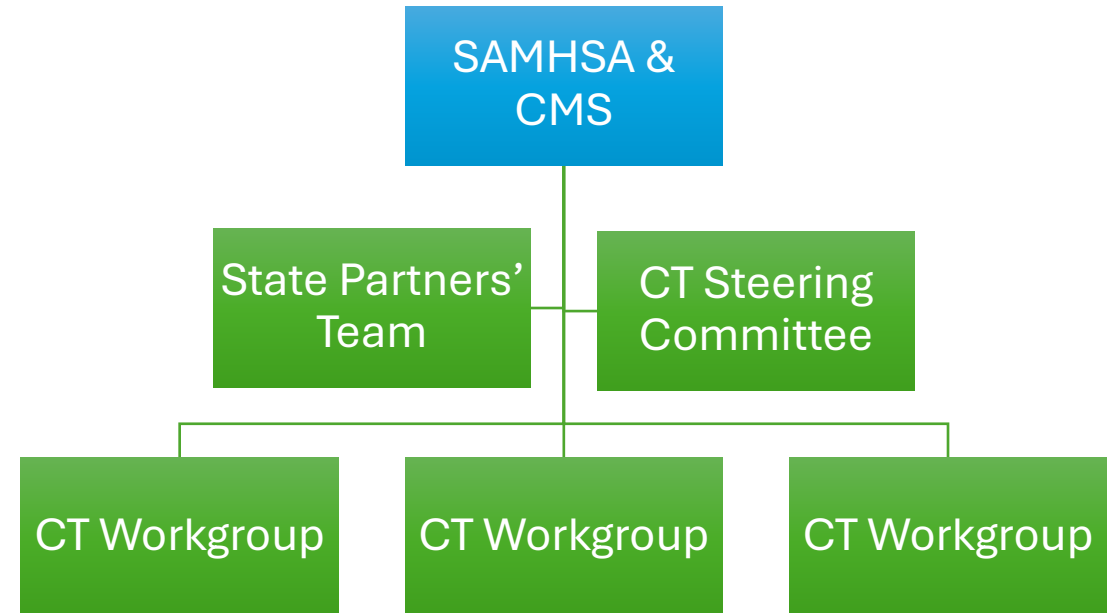
- 1. SAMHSA provides funding to support states in developing and implementing certification systems for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs), establish Prospective Payment Systems for Medicaid reimbursable behavioral health services, and prepare an application to participate in a four-year CCBHC Demonstration program.
- 1. In December 2024, Connecticut was awarded a one-year planning grant through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). This grant has been extended for one year. These planning grants are designed to support states in:
  - 1. developing and implementing certification systems for CCBHCs
  - 2. establishing Prospective Payment Systems (PPS) for Medicaid reimbursable behavioral health services
  - 3. Preparing an application to participate in a four-year CCBHC Demonstration program.

2. Consultation and technical support is provided via:

| Agency                                  | Role                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| SAMHSA                                  | Grant Oversight and Technical Assistance                      |
| Carelon Behavioral Health               | Overall grant support, metrics, and data management           |
| National Council for Mental Wellbeing   | Technical Assistance                                          |
| Child Health and Development Institute  | Workforce Analysis and Evidence-Based Practice Implementation |
| Mercer                                  | Cost Reporting and Actuarial Analysis                         |
| National Committee on Quality Assurance | CCBHC accreditation/certification                             |

# STEERING COMMITTEE–WORKGROUPS

- To ensure that input from a diverse group of stakeholders is utilized in the planning of Connecticut’s CCBHC system, the state has developed a project steering committee.
- The role of a committee member is to provide expertise and input into all grant activities and to participate in discussion and debate, voting, and decision-making.
- The State has also sought feedback from various stakeholders through steering committee workgroups, public presentations and listening sessions.
- In December 2025, workgroups began submitting formal recommendations to the Steering Committee for consideration and inclusion into Connecticut’s CCBHC model.



# Connecticut's CCBHC Planning Grant Major Activities

## CCBHC Planning Grant Key Implementation Activities December 2024-December 2026

| Activity Area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Implementation Activities                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Steering Committee(s)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Develop and maintain steering committees, subcommittees, and partnerships (e.g. state, clinics, associations) with regular cadences, notes, deliverables to ensure stake holder and community engagement in the CCBHC Demo                     |
| <b>Population and Service Areas</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Solicit input from focus populations, identify population health needs, and secure insight from those community. Identify potential CCBHCs and their service areas.                                                                            |
| <b>CCBHC Training and Education</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Identify and provide technical assistance needs for providers (e.g. CCBHC-PPS, billing, quality measures)                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Infrastructure and Data Quality</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Identify data collection infrastructure needs and begin process for quality management. Onboard and maintain technology platforms for clinic and state efforts to ensure accurate measurement of quality measures and population health needs. |
| <b>Assess Clinic and Community Needs</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Launch and complete community needs assessments and clinic readiness assessments.                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Scope of Services and Certification</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Finalize Scope of Services and Activities that will be included in certification and PPS rate. Formalize CCBHC criteria and create certification process.                                                                                      |
| <b>Establish CCBHC-PPS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Select CCBHC PPS. Establish a CCBHC-PPS System and work with clinics to help calculate a clinic-specific rate. Establish payment options and review cost reports.                                                                              |
| <b>CMS Approval For CCBHC</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Prepare to apply for Demonstration in 2028                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Connecticut has made significant progress in many of these areas and received a no-cost extension from SAMHSA in December 2025. The State intends to complete the work related to this planning grant in 2026 with the three selected CCBHCs. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

